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REVIEW OF POLITICS.

NO military operations of importance have taken place in Slesvig-Holstein during the past week. The Danes seem resolved to defend their intrenchments at Düppel to the last; and the position is too strong to be rashly assailed by the invaders. The Austrians and Prussians are concentrating a large force in front of it, but the weather has recently been unfavourable, and their movements have been seriously delayed. In the mean time the Danes have made more than one sortie from their works, and have inflicted considerable loss on the enemy. Looking, however, to the disparity of numbers, it may well be doubted whether any partial success in these encounters is not purchased at a disproportionate cost. A few hundred men more or less do not signify in the German army; but the Danes have not an unlimited reserve on which to draw as occasion may require. Although naturally disappointed at the inability of their army to hold the Dannewerke, the gallant Scandinavians have lost neither heart nor hope. Both the Rigsdag and the King have addressed the troops in firm and determined language; and it is clear that no thought of yielding, save under compulsion, has yet entered the minds of the people. It is probable that the lines of Düppel, or, at any rate, the island of Alsen, may, with the assistance of gunboats, be defended against any force which can be brought against them; but it is already rumoured that the Austro-Prussian commander-in-chief will, in the event of protracted resistance, occupy part or the whole of Jutland as "a material guarantee." In 1848, a similar threat was made under similar circumstances; but it was not carried out, because Sweden then intimated that any attempt of the kind would bring her forces into the field. At that time, however, the Prussians were acting alone. Moreover, there is as yet no sign that Sweden is disposed to intervene in the present war. King Christian told his army the other day he and they stood alone in the world. They have, it is true, the diplomatic assistance of England, but it is very doubtful whether that has not done them more harm than good. The Emperor of France still looks on with grim satisfaction, while Austria and Prussia alienate their allies, and involve themselves in difficulties with the other German states. But, although he has concurred with England in the ineffectual proposition of an armistice, there is no reason to believe that he has taken any earnest step to prevent the dismemberment of a state which was the faithful ally of the first Napoleon.

It is not safe to place much reliance upon the assurances of any German power with respect to its policy at the present crisis; but we would fain hope that the speech

delivered by the Emperor of Austria, when closing the session of the Reichsrath, indicates the present intention and the deliberate wish of his Government. Whether his Imperial Majesty will be able to adhere to the course which he has marked out for himself, is another and a very different question. The interests of Austria, as a great power, impel her strongly towards peace; but the influences to which she is subjected as a member of the German Confederation, drive her in the opposite direction. Still it is difficult to believe that the Emperor would have proclaimed, in the face of Europe, that his army had occupied Slesvig as a "pledge," unless he felt some confidence that he could adhere to the policy which this word indicates. The only intelligible meaning of such an expression is that, in accordance with the identical note of the 31st January, the Austro-Prussian army will be withdrawn from the duchy on the fulfilment by Denmark of the obligations into which she entered in 1851. We cannot suppose that the sovereign who uses the words we have quoted nourishes any design of severing the provinces thus held in "pledge" from the monarchy to which they belong. Still less can we think so, when we are assured that the Emperor's joy at the success of his arms springs "from the attainment of the just objects which are known to Europe." Undoubtedly, the only object of which Europe knows anything, in the Austro-Prussian occupation of Slesvig, is the withdrawal of the November Constitution. And unless we impute to Francis Joseph that he contemplates a gross breach of faith, we must take him at his word, and repose confidence in his desire, at any rate, to respect the engagements which he contracted towards Europe by his signature of the Treaty of 1852. The minor German states, however, appear still bent upon an uncompromising support of the Duke of Augustenburg's claims to Slesvig-Holstein. They are about to hold a conference at Würzburg, with the view of compelling the two great Powers to act in subordination to the Federal Diet. Some of them are even disposed to demand that the forces of other German states shall share with those of Austria and Prussia in the occupation of Slesvig. It is not likely that if such a claim is put forward it will be listened by the Cabinets of Vienna and Berlin. But the fact that such notions are entertained indicates the increasing alienation between the greater and the lesser Powers who hold sway in the Fatherland. The jealousy which already existed has indeed within the last few days been considerably aggravated by the Prussian occupation of Altona, Kiel, and other places in the duchy of Holstein. Although plausible reasons of a purely military character have been assigned for this step, it is obvious that its effect is to supersede, in great measure, the Federal occupation of this province. It narrows the limits of Federal action,

and tends to diminish the influence of the Diet in the ultimate settlement of the questions at issue. That the secondary states should feel aggrieved at this is only in the natural course of things. In the absence of any countenance from France, their resentment will be impotent so long as Austria and Prussia continue united; but it ought to convince these Powers that it is desirable to make peace before domestic dissensions tempt foreign intervention.

The only discussions of any importance which have occupied the attention of our own Parliament during the last few days have turned upon the relations between America and this country. There has been for some time considerable soreness on the part of the English public with respect to the proceedings of the Federal cruisers. To some extent this has arisen from a general ignorance of the law of maritime capture, as laid down by Lord Stowell in our own Admiralty Court, and as adopted by the tribunals of the United States. To some extent it is justified by the apparent strain which has more than once been put upon principles unquestionably sound; and it has certainly been fostered by the insulting and threatening language held towards us both by the American press and the Federal Secretary of State. When a responsible statesman presses absurd and wholly unfounded claims for compensation in respect of the captures made by the *Alabama*, and writes hectoring dispatches, which his representative in London discreetly refrains from presenting to Earl Russell, it is natural to suppose that rash sea captains display in action the violence and the disregard of international law which their employers exhibit in language. The Opposition were therefore fully warranted in calling upon her Majesty's Government for frank explanations as to the course they had pursued in reference to these subjects. Those explanations having been given, we are bound to say that they appear to us perfectly satisfactory. Earl Russell has shown by reference to dates that his decision to detain the steam rams in the Mersey preceded, and did not follow, the objectionable notes in which Mr. Adams urged that step. He has also cleared himself from the imputation of having lent any countenance to claims for compensation in respect of the captures made by the *Alabama*. Nor is it easy to see what more he could have done, up to the present time, than urge upon the Federal Government the propriety of bringing to immediate trial the officer who shot the unfortunate mate of the *Saxon*. As to the alleged cases of illegal interference with neutral trade, the Attorney-General has succeeded in convincing the House of Commons that it would be premature to assume that justice will not be done to our traders by the Federal courts. He pledged his high professional reputation for the statement that they have as yet enunciated no doctrines which our authorities do not sanction; and as this assertion was not challenged by any lawyer on the other side of the House, it may safely be taken as correct. With regard to disputed matters of fact, he argued, with irresistible force, that our Government cannot properly intervene before they have been investigated by the highest tribunal in America. Upon the whole, therefore, it does not appear to us that Lord Palmerston and his colleagues have been at all wanting in the performance of their duties. We have a right to expect from them the due protection of British interests and British honour; but we do not desire that they should be led, by the bad example set them on the other side of the Atlantic, into any hasty measures or any undignified displays of petulance or irritation. We cannot forget that we are, as a nation, mainly responsible for the law of maritime capture which now presses somewhat inconveniently upon ourselves. Nor should we suffer our impatience at a temporary annoyance to betray us into undermining those belligerent rights which, as the first naval power in the world, it is our permanent interest to maintain in full force and efficiency.

The estimates for the army and navy have been laid before Parliament. As compared with last year, there is a reduction in the cost of the land service of £215,349, and in the cost of the sea service of £303,422. The saving effected in our military expenditure seems altogether judicious. There is no material diminution in the effective force of the army. The decrease is chiefly due to the exercise of general economy in all the departments, and is therefore extremely creditable to the Secretary for War. Had it not been for the war in New Zealand, the saving would have been still greater than it is. We do not feel quite so well satisfied as to the reduction in the naval

estimates. It is due in great measure to a retrenchment of the number of seamen and marines from 75,000 to 71,000 men. The Government may be able to explain how it is that a smaller number of men is required in the present than was thought necessary in the past year; but we confess that the existing state of our foreign relations scarcely seems to justify us in disarming even to this comparatively trivial extent. Even if there were no other reasons against it, it is open to the objection that it tends to lower our influence in the settlement of pending questions. It is likely to be understood abroad as an intimation that we have made up our minds not to go to war under any circumstances. Apart from this, the most important item of reduction is one of £365,000 in the charge for "naval stores, for the building, repair, and outfit of the fleet, steam-machinery, and ships built by contract." To some extent this is no doubt due to better and more economical management; but we apprehend that it also represents a certain slackening in the work of reconstructing the navy. We find no fault with this, for we have now reached a position in which we may safely, as the saying is, "take things easily." But we must confess that we are disappointed not to see in the naval estimates some more marked indications of saving as a result of administrative reform. As yet Mr. Stansfeld's labours have not produced much fruit. It did not require a Radical from Halifax to reduce the cost of the navy by disbanding seamen and ceasing to build ships.

The recent news from America is full of interest. Having failed to obtain the 300,000 men for whom he asked some months ago, President Lincoln has now ordered a draft of half a million. This time, we are told, the conscription will be a reality; and Northern patriotism will at last undergo the practical test of compulsory service in the field. We have our own opinion as to the probable success of the experiment, but we are heartily glad that it should be tried, because there is nothing else so likely to bring the Federals to their senses. So long as the contest could be carried on by German or Irish recruits, there was little prospect of an abatement of the war fever; but when those who clamour for the subjugation of the South are compelled to fight in person, it is reasonable to expect that they will estimate far more soberly than they have hitherto done, both the difficulty of the undertaking and the value of the object to be attained. If the new draft cannot be carried out, the independence of the Confederates may be considered as virtually established. A frontier war may continue for some time longer, but the existence of the Southern Republic will be no longer in peril. Even if Mr. Lincoln obtains his 500,000 men, it is clear that he has no holiday task before him. The Confederates have quite recovered from the fit of depression into which they were cast by their misfortunes in the last campaign. They have opened the campaign of 1864 with a vigour which has evidently taken their more tardy antagonist by surprise, and has already enabled them to gain several advantages. Their activity seems ubiquitous. In the north of Virginia they have made a raid upon the Baltimore and Ohio Railway. In Western Virginia they have captured a depôt of stores, and sunk a steamer which used to ply on the Ohio and Kanawha rivers. A body of cavalry under Forrest is scouring the district between Corinth and the Mississippi. Lower down the same river, Natchez is threatened by another force of horsemen. In North Carolina the Federals have been driven back upon Newbern; and General Butler has met with a reverse on the James river. It is almost certain that the siege of Charleston will be raised. While in East Tennessee Longstreet has taken up a position which enables him to threaten Knoxville, and at the same time to forage over a district rich in the supplies which his army requires. It is true that some of the movements we have mentioned do not, if taken by themselves, promise any permanent result; but when the whole are taken together, they afford unquestionable evidence of the unbroken spirit of the South, and of the resolution and energy with which they are still prepared to defend their independence.

The full accounts which have reached us during the past week amply warrant the satisfaction with which the first news of our recent successes in New Zealand was received. The capture of the intrenchments at Rangiri was a gallant feat of arms on the part of our troops. The defence was no less creditable to the natives. In spite of the strength of their position, the latter were completely defeated; and we may fairly expect that

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the lesson they have received will abate the excessive confidence which they have hitherto reposed in their tactics and their fortifications. They must be convinced by this time that they are no match for European troops. Sufficient time had not been afforded before the departure of the mail for the moral effect of this victory on the insurgent tribes to become apparent. The leader of the native-king movement had, however, tendered his submission, and he is said to have acknowledged that he had only some forty followers who still remained faithful to him. In all probability, therefore, the war is at an end. It remains for us to make good use of our triumph. We trust that the Maoris will be made to understand clearly that we intend to be paramount in New Zealand. But, on the other hand, their many good qualities should not be forgotten. Any grievances of which they have a right to complain should be taken into consideration without reference to the events of the last few months. No efforts should be spared to reconcile to our rule the remnant of the finest aboriginal race with whom we have come in contact in any part of the world.

BRIGHTONIANA.

POLITICAL excitement always runs high at Brighton. Either Mr. Bernal Osborne and Mr. Coningham have given their constituents a healthy taste for bear-fighting, or else sea-bathing and sea-breezes promote political vigour. Marine watering-places are generally active about parliamentary elections, and divide themselves with much alacrity into factions upon the subject. There must be enough donkey-drivers at Brighton and at Cheltenham to erect a Radical party for themselves; and some observation of the mode of thought prevalent among Indian majors with diseased livers inclines us to believe that wherever curry is found in large quantities, Conservatism will be found also. The recent Brighton election has been even more noisy than usual. Three Liberal candidates warring against themselves have placed the representation in the hands of Mr. Moor—an eminently respectable gentleman, who seems to unite with Tory propensities a marked dislike of the populace. Whatever may be said against the ass-compelling non-electors of the borough, one thing is clear, that they had good sense enough to hit upon the best candidate. Mr. Fawcett, the Political Economy Professor of Cambridge, is blind; but his abilities and courage are of the highest order, and he would probably have done credit to Brighton's choice. But Mr. Dumas and Mr. Goldsmid have shown themselves deficient in the first quality requisite in a member of Parliament—a readiness to postpone private wishes to the interests of a cause. The honest donkey-drivers estimated them rightly. The fourteen hundred votes polled for Mr. Fawcett on the Monday perfectly confirmed the justice of the verdict given for him at the hustings by the mob; and Mr. Dumas and Mr. Goldsmid may remark, with some shame, that, as far as they were concerned, the judgment of Philip sober was precisely the same as that of Philip drunk.

A seat lost to the Liberal cause by the sheer bad temper of a few local politicians is not a very uncommon nor a very regrettable thing. It will probably be a wholesome lesson both for the borough and the candidates. Without apportioning the censure, we may well believe that, in such cases, not one only, but everybody is to blame; except, perhaps, the eccentric Mr. Harper, who may be acquitted of having endangered anything except the auricular nerves of his audience. It seems almost incredible that no compromise between the contending parties should have been effected before the last day; and the melancholy truth can only be attributed to the gross and wilful selfishness and vanity of some of those concerned. A gentleman who, out of a constituency of more than 4,000 voters, can only calculate upon 229 supporters, in dividing his party commits a political crime, which only much purification and a long career of future obscurity can clear away. Mr. Goldsmid appears to have had the excuse of some local position and a tolerably substantial scattering of supporters in the town. That his claims to distinction were not overwhelming may be gathered from the fact that an utter stranger, without paid canvassers, more than doubled him at the poll. Whether Mr. Fawcett was wise in appearing on the Brighton stage is one thing. The result shows, at least, that his opponents were in duty bound to make way for him when it came to a stand-up fight. No doubt such sacrifices are unpleasant. It is by no means agreeable for a resident gentleman of moderate intelligence to see himself supplanted in his own town by an adventurous young professor from Cambridge, whose bottled

thunder is livelier, fresher, and more drinkable than his own. But to suppose that, because a man is born at Brighton, he is entitled to lose the Liberals the borough would be conceding too much. Mr. Goldsmid himself by this time, possibly, is of opinion that it would have been better for his political interest in the long run to have been more magnanimous at the beginning of the race.

The contempt lavished by the various speakers at the hustings on the crowd was perhaps undeserved, and probably returned in kind. The honourable candidates despised the mob because they pelted one another with turnips and stale fish, and because they hooted at the gentlemen upon the platform. After all, the donkey-drivers had a right to look down upon the speakers on almost identical grounds. Mr. Goldsmid abstained from vegetable missiles; but his language to his brother candidates was of the shrimp-woman order, and may have been considered by the marine multitude as almost ultra-marine. He had not stooped to the low abuse of his opponents, in spite of the abuse, the written calumnies, and the ignoble course of Mr. Fawcett. Mr. Henry Willett had descended to all sorts of ignoble devices; for doing which Mr. Goldsmid despised, but would not imitate him. Claiming that fair play which others had not accorded to him, he was proud to think that he, at least, stood before the donkey-drivers an honourable man. If this was not a moral cannonade very much on a par with the cabbage-stalks and the dead herrings of the crowd, we beg to ask, What was it? Alderman Somebody considered one of the candidates a disgrace to that or any other borough; and the only gentleman who, by a kind of Themistoclean vote, was universally acknowledged to be a man of honour by all the Liberals, strange to say, was the Conservative. Mr. Moor's popular address was shorter, but quite as effective. As the question was to be decided at the poll, and not by the assemblage in front of the hustings, he begged to wish them a good morning. The donkey-drivers received the cavalier announcement with some hisses and more laughter; and looking at the past experiences of Mr. Bernal Osborne, we are far from saying that Mr. Moor, if he will but cultivate street oratory, may not be the man for Brighton. The other suitors—with the exception of Mr. Fawcett, who has obviously a real power of addressing crowds—appeared, no doubt, to the vulgar public, as a quarrelsome and wrangling group. They now saw on the platform what the platform had so often seen on the fly-stand. Brighton only asked for the first cab, and up came at a gallop half a dozen eager rivals for political employment, swearing at each other, and endeavouring to bid one another down.

Mr. Goldsmid and Mr. Dumas will never again be able to saunter down the Marine-parade, and to watch the cheerful virulence with which the various hackney-chaises compete for custom from a superior stand-point of gentlemanly indifference. They will know the sensation of being a cabriolet proprietor without a fare. They will appreciate the keen provocations of being undersold by rival establishments, and the indignant ferocity with which human nature revolts against an unfair advantage taken by a neighbour's animal. A little consideration will show them that this sort of competition has its limits even upon the Marine-parade. It is only lawful so to disparage or obstruct another's beast of burden as not to endanger the safety or the convenience of the public. Beyond this the most aggrieved hackney-coachman may not go, however deeply he resents in private those calumnies and those ignoble devices which Mr. Goldsmid objects to so fervently in public life. If he transgresses, the policeman interferes, and checks him in the interests of the town. Otherwise, a wordy altercation would pass into a fray; and there is but a step, as policemen know, between a fray and a riot. Mr. Goldsmid and Mr. Dumas have been more fortunate, though not less noisy and quarrelsome. No stern vindicator of the law has bonneted them, or requested them to return in silence to their stand. They have had their fight; and Brighton has felt the consequences. Hard words have been flying about like rotten eggs; and the animation observable upon the hustings, as was natural, transferred itself at last to the mob. Who is to blame for the broken windows at Brighton? The upper and middle classes, who denounced each other, or the lower classes, who took up the controversy in a more material and matter-of-fact spirit? Political animosity cannot always be avoided. There are boroughs in which it is habitual for the Blues to cudgel the Buffs, and for the Buffs to sling dead kittens at the Blues. But for the Buffs to promote a town row by heaping Billingsgate on each other is a nuisance that can easily be remedied. The remedy is this: Let Liberal constituencies over England mark down the young birds who make such a clammy disturbance in

and tends to diminish the influence of the Diet in the ultimate settlement of the questions at issue. That the secondary states should feel aggrieved at this is only in the natural course of things. In the absence of any countenance from France, their resentment will be impotent so long as Austria and Prussia continue united; but it ought to convince these Powers that it is desirable to make peace before domestic dissensions tempt foreign intervention.

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the lesson they have received will abate the excessive confidence which they have hitherto reposed in their tactics and their fortifications. They must be convinced by this time that they are no match for European troops. Sufficient time had not been afforded before the departure of the mail for the moral effect of this victory on the insurgent tribes to become apparent. The leader of the native-king movement had, however, tendered his submission, and he is said to have acknowledged that he had only some forty followers who still remained faithful to him. In all probability, therefore, the war is at an end. It remains for us to make good use of our triumph. We trust that the Maoris will be made to understand clearly that we intend to be paramount in New Zealand. But, on the other hand, their many good qualities should not be forgotten. Any grievances of which they have a right to complain should be taken into consideration without reference to the events of the last few months. No efforts should be spared to reconcile to our rule the remnant of the finest aboriginal race with whom we have come in contact in any part of the world.

BRIGHTONIANA.

POLITICAL excitement always runs high at Brighton. Either Mr. Bernal Osborne and Mr. Coningham have given their constituents a healthy taste for bear-fighting, or else sea-bathing and sea-breezes promote political vigour. Marine watering-places are generally active about parliamentary elections, and divide themselves with much alacrity into factions upon the subject. There must be enough donkey-drivers at Brighton and at Cheltenham to erect a Radical party for themselves; and some observation of the mode of thought prevalent among Indian majors with diseased livers inclines us to believe that wherever curry is found in large quantities, Conservatism will be found also. The recent Brighton election has been even more noisy than usual. Three Liberal candidates warring against themselves have placed the representation in the hands of Mr. Moor—an eminently respectable gentleman, who seems to unite with Tory propensities a marked dislike of the populace. Whatever may be said against the ass-compelling non-electors of the borough, one thing is clear, that they had good sense enough to hit upon the best candidate. Mr. Fawcett, the Political Economy Professor of Cambridge, is blind; but his abilities and courage are of the highest order, and he would probably have done credit to Brighton's choice. But Mr. Dumas and Mr. Goldsmid have shown themselves deficient in the first quality requisite in a member of Parliament—a readiness to postpone private wishes to the interests of a cause. The honest donkey-drivers estimated them rightly. The fourteen hundred votes polled for Mr. Fawcett on the Monday perfectly confirmed the justice of the verdict given for him at the hustings by the mob; and Mr. Dumas and Mr. Goldsmid may remark, with some shame, that, as far as they were concerned, the judgment of Philip sober was precisely the same as that of Philip drunk.

A seat lost to the Liberal cause by the sheer bad temper of a few local politicians is not a very uncommon nor a very regrettable thing. It will probably be a wholesome lesson both for the borough and the candidates. Without apportioning the censure, we may well believe that, in such cases, not one only, but everybody is to blame; except, perhaps, the eccentric Mr. Harper, who may be acquitted of having endangered anything except the auricular nerves of his audience. It seems almost incredible that no compromise between the contending parties should have been effected before the last day; and the melancholy truth can only be attributed to the gross and wilful selfishness and vanity of some of those concerned. A gentleman who, out of a constituency of more than 4,000 voters, can only calculate upon 229 supporters, in dividing his party commits a political crime, which only much purification and a long career of future obscurity can clear away. Mr. Goldsmid appears to have had the excuse of some local position and a tolerably substantial scattering of supporters in the town. That his claims to distinction were not overwhelming may be gathered from the fact that an utter stranger, without paid canvassers, more than doubled him at the poll. Whether Mr. Fawcett was wise in appearing on the Brighton stage is one thing. The result shows, at least, that his opponents were in duty bound to make way for him when it came to a stand-up fight. No doubt such sacrifices are unpleasant. It is by no means agreeable for a resident gentleman of moderate intelligence to see himself supplanted in his own town by an adventurous young professor from Cambridge, whose bottled

thunder is livelier, fresher, and more drinkable than his own. But to suppose that, because a man is born at Brighton, he is entitled to lose the Liberals the borough would be conceding too much. Mr. Goldsmid himself by this time, possibly, is of opinion that it would have been better for his political interest in the long run to have been more magnanimous at the beginning of the race.

The contempt lavished by the various speakers at the hustings on the crowd was perhaps undeserved, and probably returned in kind. The honourable candidates despised the mob because they pelted one another with turnips and stale fish, and because they hooted at the gentlemen upon the platform. After all, the donkey-drivers had a right to look down upon the speakers on almost identical grounds. Mr. Goldsmid abstained from vegetable missiles; but his language to his brother candidates was of the shrimp-woman order, and may have been considered by the marine multitude as almost ultra-marine. He had not stooped to the low abuse of his opponents, in spite of the abuse, the written calumnies, and the ignoble course of Mr. Fawcett. Mr. Henry Willett had descended to all sorts of ignoble devices; for doing which Mr. Goldsmid despised, but would not imitate him. Claiming that fair play which others had not accorded to him, he was proud to think that he, at least, stood before the donkey-drivers an honourable man. If this was not a moral cannonade very much on a par with the cabbage-stalks and the dead herrings of the crowd, we beg to ask, What was it? Alderman Somebody considered one of the candidates a disgrace to that or any other borough; and the only gentleman who, by a kind of Themistoclean vote, was universally acknowledged to be a man of honour by all the Liberals, strange to say, was the Conservative. Mr. Moor's popular address was shorter, but quite as effective. As the question was to be decided at the poll, and not by the assemblage in front of the hustings, he begged to wish them a good morning. The donkey-drivers received the cavalier announcement with some hisses and more laughter; and looking at the past experiences of Mr. Bernal Osborne, we are far from saying that Mr. Moor, if he will but cultivate street oratory, may not be the man for Brighton. The other suitors—with the exception of Mr. Fawcett, who has obviously a real power of addressing crowds—appeared, no doubt, to the vulgar public, as a quarrelsome and wrangling group. They now saw on the platform what the platform had so often seen on the fly-stand. Brighton only asked for the first cab, and up came at a gallop half a dozen eager rivals for political employment, swearing at each other, and endeavouring to bid one another down.

Mr. Goldsmid and Mr. Dumas will never again be able to saunter down the Marine-parade, and to watch the cheerful virulence with which the various hackney-chaises compete for custom from a superior stand-point of gentlemanly indifference. They will know the sensation of being a cabriolet proprietor without a fare. They will appreciate the keen provocations of being undersold by rival establishments, and the indignant ferocity with which human nature revolts against an unfair advantage taken by a neighbour's animal. A little consideration will show them that this sort of competition has its limits even upon the Marine-parade. It is only lawful so to disparage or obstruct another's beast of burden as not to endanger the safety or the convenience of the public. Beyond this the most aggrieved hackney-coachman may not go, however deeply he resents in private those calumnies and those ignoble devices which Mr. Goldsmid objects to so fervently in public life. If he transgresses, the policeman interferes, and checks him in the interests of the town. Otherwise, a wordy altercation would pass into a fray; and there is but a step, as policemen know, between a fray and a riot. Mr. Goldsmid and Mr. Dumas have been more fortunate, though not less noisy and quarrelsome. No stern vindicator of the law has bonneted them, or requested them to return in silence to their stand. They have had their fight; and Brighton has felt the consequences. Hard words have been flying about like rotten eggs; and the animation observable upon the hustings, as was natural, transferred itself at last to the mob. Who is to blame for the broken windows at Brighton? The upper and middle classes, who denounced each other, or the lower classes, who took up the controversy in a more material and matter-of-fact spirit? Political animosity cannot always be avoided. There are boroughs in which it is habitual for the Blues to cudgel the Buffs, and for the Buffs to fling dead kittens at the Blues. But for the Buffs to promote a town row by heaping Billingsgate on each other is a nuisance that can easily be remedied. The remedy is this: Let Liberal constituencies over England mark down the young birds who make such a clammy disturbance in

getting up, and make examples of them. Some of the leading actors at Brighton may congratulate themselves if the part they have played there does not disqualify them for all political occupation for years and years to come.

PRIVATE BILL LEGISLATION.

THE flagrant abuses of the system of Private Bill Legislation have at last compelled the Government to deal with the question. Foremost among the evils of Parliamentary Committees are their incredible waste and costliness. The London and North-Western Railway has spent from first to last a million sterling in the committee-rooms of St. Stephen's! The Great Western has expended £800,000 in Parliamentary contests. The Great Northern was mulcted in £420,000 before a sod was turned. The Parliamentary costs per mile of the Great Eastern are set down at £900. Some shorter lines have been plundered in a still more shameless manner. The Hereford Railway expended a quarter of a million in obtaining the sanction of a line of twenty-five miles in length—say £10,000 per mile. Fifteen and even twenty per cent. on the capital of a company are not unfrequently wasted in Parliamentary litigation. Sir M. Peto, indeed, relates one case in which the entire subscribed capital of a company (£82,000) was swallowed up in passing the ordeal of the standing orders! It is conjectured, with some show of probability, that of the £400,000,000 expended on the railways of the United Kingdom about a tenth has been swallowed up in Parliamentary contests and committee-rooms. It may be thought that the great cases of wasteful litigation belong to the years of railway mania,—1845, 1846, and 1847. But this notion is dissipated by a return of the Parliamentary outlay of the great lines between 1855 and 1861. The London and North-Western spent £150,000; the Lancashire and Yorkshire, £90,000 (£40,000 in 1861); the Great Western, £86,000 (£40,000 in 1861); the Caledonian, £80,000; the North British, £60,000; the Great Eastern, £48,000 (£28,000 in 1861). Mr. Whalley, M.P., charges Parliament with having caused an expenditure of a million and a half on less than 300 miles of railway in Wales.

The sum spent by railway companies by no means represents the entire cost of Parliamentary litigation. Small landowners, and those who have inconsiderable interests to protect, are compelled to pay fees entirely disproportioned to the value of their interests. Col. Wilson Patten, who, as chairman of the Committee of Selection, may be said to be the manager of the private business of the House, states that a gentleman of Gloucestershire or Wiltshire who had to defend his garden against a railway could not get into the committee-room without incurring an outlay of £35. His garden was worth £85; his bill for Parliamentary expenses ultimately amounted to more than £300. A Parliamentary agent told a Committee that in no case would he advise an owner to appear in Parliament against a railway company. This is a denial of justice to the owners of small properties. In one case a gentleman was put to an expense of £300 or £400 in preparing his case. His counsel were instructed, and his witnesses were in attendance, when the railway company, at the last moment, told him they did not want his land. This was a case in which an owner has no redress, and yet Parliament has refused to relieve such persons from payment of fees. Why is there such an outcry, not to say panic, in regard to the metropolitan railway invasion but that small landowners and occupiers know they are at the mercy of railway companies, and are debarred by the ruinous expense from appealing to a Parliamentary Committee for protection? Add to the millions spent by railway companies the hundreds of thousands levied upon owners of property, tenants, and others who have had rights to defend, and what a monstrous and sinful aggregate of waste has been sanctioned and enjoined by Parliament!

We have never ceased to represent not only the hardship to railway shareholders of these costly battles before Parliamentary Committees, but also the injury to the community at large. It is the public who pay in the long run and in one way or another. Lord Robert Cecil on Tuesday declared that the frightful accidents which had disgraced the English railway system were distinctly attributable to the system of Private Bill Legislation. "Accidents could generally be traced to injudicious economy. The injudicious economy was the result of the heavy burdens placed on the company from the commencement, and for those burdens this House is mainly responsible." The Chambers of Commerce, with equal cogency, point out that "the great expense and uncertainty form a serious impediment to the undertaking of large and important works, and in smaller undertakings suffice to cause the abandon-

ment of many projects and improvements of great public utility." The Government have been shamed into action by the report of the Select Committee of last Session on Private Bill Legislation. That committee was composed of members of great experience in private business. They examined Earl Grey and Lord Redesdale, who attended by permission of the other House. They had before them Parliamentary agents, the Secretary to the Board of Trade, and other competent witnesses; and they came to the unanimous conclusion that the private business of the House was unsatisfactory on account of the length and costliness of contested cases.

The principal items of expense in seeking or opposing railway bills are the House fees and the fees of Parliamentary counsel. The House fees—that is, the fees exacted by the officers of the House of Commons on private bills, and paid into a common fund—not only defray the establishment charges thrown upon the House by the private business, but the whole expense of the House of Commons, from the salary of the Speaker to that of the doorkeepers and ushers. The minimum fee on an unopposed bill is £200 for both Houses. Every bill pays a fee on almost every separate stage of its progress, and also pays in addition an *ad valorem* fee, calculated upon the amount of capital sought to be raised. This *ad valorem* fee is quite independent of the time and labour imposed upon committees. Four or five years ago the Great Northern Railway Company came to Parliament for a bill of three or four pages. They asked for an additional million of capital. The bill imposed no peculiar labour upon Parliament. It was unopposed. Yet the fees of the two Houses were £800 on that bill. The *ad valorem* fee upon the Charing Cross Railway bill was £525. The multiplication of the fees according to the capital is greater in the House of Commons than in the House of Lords. The committee proposed to abolish the *ad valorem* fee altogether. They condemned, too, the principle of selling justice at a profit. They took evidence to show the expense thrown upon the House by the private bills (about £18,000), and they declared that the rate of fees ought to be revised "so as to meet, but not exceed the expense thrown upon the House by the private business." The officers of the House demur to this estimate, and place the cost of private business at £29,000. But even at this extravagant estimate the fees average more than double this sum. The average cost of the House of Commons is £58,000 a year; the average amount of fees paid in 1860, 1861, and 1862 was £67,000 a year. The Consolidated Fund was thus a gainer of £9,000 a year by the private legislation, over and above the payment of the salaries of all the officers of the Commons and the incidental expenses of the building. The Select Committee recommended a simple and intelligible scale of fees:—On the petition for the bill, £5; on the first reading, £15; on the second reading, £15; on the report from the committee, £15; and on the third reading, £15.

The Government shrink from adopting the recommendation of the Committee. Mr. Milner Gibson retains the *ad valorem* scale, and insists on making a profit on private bill legislation over and above the expenses thrown upon the House by private business. Taking these expenses at the fancy estimate of £29,000, he makes reductions which he asserts will amount to £21,000, leaving himself with a large margin of profit. The Government proposal was, however, carried on Mr. Milner Gibson's assurance that he was about to introduce two bills which will remove one-tenth part of the private business from the control and jurisdiction of the House.

In regard to the fees of counsel, Parliament found itself powerless. An intimation was conveyed to the Committee that the Parliamentary Bar would set at defiance any order of the House or recommendation of the Committee. The Bar was as jealous of its etiquette as Parliament of its privileges and as much inclined to uphold it. Still the evil had attained to such monstrous proportions that the Committee were bound to consider it. No barrister can appear before a Parliamentary Committee and accept a less sum than thirty guineas for the first day, and fifteen guineas for every succeeding day. The more usual formula is ten guineas with the brief, ten guineas for the day's attendance, and five guineas for the day's retainer; or, as Mr. Baxter put it, he cannot have a counsel for a single day for less than twenty-five guineas. These are minimum charges, and have nothing to do with the "500 guineas" marked on the briefs of eminent leaders.

As the business is in the hands of very few agents, the Parliamentary Bar is described as a sort of close borough, where all are banded together to monopolize the briefs and keep out new comers. The high fees to counsel prevent smaller owners from coming before the Committees and obtaining justice; and even railway companies would be glad to secure the services of

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juniors on more moderate terms. In great railway battles there are sometimes as many as ten or twelve counsel of a side. The leaders receive fabulous sums; yet there is so much in having the ear of a Committee and inspiring dismay on the other side, that one enthusiastic solicitor told the Committee of last session that one of the great counsel "got an advantage for his clients worth more than half a million, by the simple fact of his holding the brief." But although the Speaker has no power to revise the fees of counsel, a pressure has been put upon the Parliamentary Bar which they have been too wise to resist. A recommendation by the Committee, and a resolution by the House, against the present high scale of fees to counsel, would have very much encouraged the juniors who desire a share of Parliamentary business to throw off the yoke of the leaders, and to accept more moderate fees. So the Parliamentary Bar have passed resolutions, the benefit of which, we believe, will be enjoyed by the promoters and opponents of bills in the coming session.

Another saving will be made in the charges of Parliamentary agents and solicitors which the Speaker has been requested to revise. One mode of remunerating solicitors has been by charging eightpence per folio for documents which can be copied for twopence. The minutes of evidence on opposed private bills are also to be printed, and not copied, which will be a great convenience to committees and counsel, and at the same time a saving to the parties. These are all steps in the right direction.

Great stress was laid by some of the witnesses on the advantage of committees on private bills meeting at eleven instead of twelve o'clock. The President of the Board of Trade accordingly moved a direction to this effect; but something like an *émeute* broke out in the House of Commons among the overworked victims who have to sit until one or two o'clock in the morning, and who wish to do their duty in regard to the public business of the House. Lord Stanley, it seems, sat no less than sixty-nine days last session as Chairman of Committees, most of his sittings being long and laborious. Colonel Wilson Patten made the House merry by stating that he had seven gentlemen for a panel of chairmen, but that since the resolution for meeting at eleven o'clock had been on the paper, three of them had declined to serve. The proposal was so unpopular that Mr. Milner Gibson withdrew it. The time of a railway committee is, however, so valuable that a pound a minute is believed to be lost by the parties while the members leave the committee-room to attend a division.

An opinion gains ground within the House that private bill legislation, on the one hand, is incompatible with the duties of an M.P., and that Parliamentary Committees, on the other, are unfit to deal with the complicated questions involved in railway and other private bills. The pressure of business upon hon. members during the present session is likely to be almost intolerable, and the more so because the Government have not ventured to adopt the recommendation of the Select Committee, that committees on railways and other bills shall consist of three instead of five members. The experienced chairman would be out-voted by two raw and inexperienced members at his side, and the decision of such a tribunal would carry with it no confidence whatever.

The proposals of the President of the Board of Trade are beneficial as far as they go, but they stop far short of a searching and effective reform of the private bill legislation. Whether a more satisfactory method of investigation may not be discovered without infringing on the legislative powers of Parliament is a question which may usefully occupy the attention of the press and the public. For the present let us rejoice that some check has at length been put upon the legalized plunder and robbery of railway companies in and by the House of Commons.

THE HAMMERSMITH RAILWAY SCANDAL.

THE railway interest is gradually working its way into all our institutions. In the House of Lords it is protected by five-and-forty noble directors; and in the "other place" by a hundred and fifty Commoners. Railway directors sit on the magistrate's bench, and award such compensation as seems fit to them in respect of claims, perhaps against the very companies of which they are members. An army of surveyors waits on the great interest, ready to swear themselves black in the face that land worth £1,000 is worth only £100, or *vice versa*, as suits the wishes of the company that employs them. And now it would seem that railway influence has found its way even into the jury-box, and that the conduct of plaintiff and defendant

hereafter is to be decided, not by rules of evidence and the ordinary standard of morality, but by the share which they possess in the great interest of the age. On no other theory can we account for the verdict by which the special jury in the case of *Parsons v. Surgey* has assoiled the plaintiff and restored him to society with a clean bill of health, and £25 damages, for the wound inflicted on his honour by the defendant. The reparation is not quite what he asked; for in the agony of soul which he suffered at having his probity doubted, he laid his damages at £10,000. But we are bound to say that it is exactly £25 more than he deserved; and that if every man got his deserts, the damages would have been given on the other side, though to a far greater amount.

The case is a curious illustration of the theory that a man may possess a double conscience, and perform acts in his private capacity which are manifestly improper in his official. Mr. Parsons is the chairman of the Hammersmith Railway, deputy chairman of the Metropolitan, a director of the Great Western, and other railway companies; "a man," said his counsel, "in an important position," with a reputation "especially dear to him." But his reputation is not the only thing which is dear to Mr. Parsons. He knows the value of land, and frankly enough stated in the witness-box that "he was always ready to buy it, either as a director or privately," and that "if he knew where a railway was about to be constructed, he should buy some of the land through which it would pass." Now there is nothing wrong in this, if the purchase is pure and simple, and does not bestow rights which conflict with the purchaser's duties. But when the director of a railway, knowing that his line is about to pass through a particular estate, buys up the land, and competes in his private capacity with the interests which as director he is bound to protect, the act becomes so questionable, that one may fairly doubt the actor's sensitiveness for his reputation. This was what Mr. Parsons did. He was chairman of the Hammersmith Railway. He knew that part of the Portobello estate would be required for the line; and, in partnership with Mr. Blake, another of the Hammersmith directors, he bought 130 acres of the land with the express view of selling a portion of it at an advanced price to the company of which he was chairman. This is the broad statement of the case; but it is not a full statement. Had Mr. Parsons declared that he had bought the land, had he told the directors and shareholders that he had become possessed of an interest hostile to theirs, it would have been competent to them to continue him in his office or to remove him. There can be no doubt what course as men of business they would have taken, even if he himself had been blind to the obligation he was under of resigning a trust he was no longer competent to fulfil. But Mr. Parsons did none of these things. He concealed the fact of his "divided duty,"—the directors at least declare that he never informed them of it; and, remitting to his solicitors that portion of it which related to the compensation he was to receive in his private capacity, he continued, as chairman, to direct and advise the company with reference even to his own land—that land which the directors say he led them to believe belonged to persons whom he had the power of influencing in the company's interests.

Let us go a little more into this matter. In the commencement of 1862, Mr. Rummings, the contractor, sent in tenders for the works and the land, which were accepted. On the 3rd of June, notice was given by the Hammersmith Company to take two acres of the Portobello estate; and, in the following November, Messrs. Parsons and Blake became the owners of that estate, which they had purchased at £1,000 per acre. There can be no doubt about their object. It was to make a profit out of the land at the expense of their own company. But this required some delicacy of management. Accordingly, they intrusted the matter of compensation to Messrs. Lake and Kendall, and left to their discretion the amount which should be claimed. "I said I thought it would be more decorous," says Mr. Parsons, "if we abstained from giving them any directions upon the subject." He therefore told them to "adopt their own course," and not come to him or Mr. Blake for instructions. A man cannot be very sensitive about his reputation when he thinks that such a shield as this is sufficient to protect it. Mr. Parsons might be sure that his solicitors would urge his interests as effectively without as with his instructions. It is in evidence that, surely not without his knowledge, the elder and younger Mr. Lake had at this time received a share in the land, and were therefore his and Blake's partners. Can it be pretended that he did not know that his solicitors had secured Mr. Lloyd, the company's standing counsel, for the reference, and Mr. Clarke, one of the surveyors of the Metropolitan Railway, of which Parsons was deputy chairman, as

arbitrator? Well might he refrain from giving definite instructions when his interests were in such safe hands. But, notwithstanding his disclaimer of interference, Mr. Parsons did, as we shall see, to some extent advise Messrs. Lake & Kendall on the amount of compensation. The first claim they sent in was for £7,500 for the two acres, which had cost £2,000. To this Mr. Parsons, though as chairman of the company he was well aware of it, made no objection, though the two acres had previously been valued at £3,000 by Mr. Ritchie, his own surveyor. Subsequently, Messrs. Barberry & Vigors, who had an ambulatory right of pre-emption over seven acres of the estate at £1,000 per acre, sent in a claim against the company for £14,500; and then Lake & Kendall put in an amended claim for £20,000 for the two acres previously valued by them at £7,500, and by Mr. Ritchie at £3,000. This startled Mr. Parsons. He told Kendall that he did not like the £20,000 claim, and said, "Don't you think it would be better to take £6,000 if we can get it?" Kendall thought not, and Parsons abode by his decision. But his interference did not end there. Mr. Rummings, who had contracted for the land as well as the works, astounded at this preposterous claim, saw ruin staring him in the face. He therefore went to the directors and told them that the claims were so extravagant that he could not complete his contract. No man knew better than Mr. Parsons that the claim for the two acres belonging to him and Mr. Blake was excessive. He had told his solicitor so, and had professed his willingness to take £6,000, "if he could get it." According to his own judgment the claim was over-made by £14,000; according to that of his surveyor, Mr. Ritchie, it was excessive by £17,000; and according to the final award of the arbitrator it was excessive by £15,800. Yet will it be believed that, on Rummings asking to be released from his contract, Mr. Parsons recommended the directors to set him free on his forfeiting £15,000—knowing that at least £14,000 of the extravagant charges for land had been made, as he himself stated, through "an error of judgment?" To speak of such conduct as "an impropriety" or an "indiscretion" would be folly.

Now what, under these circumstances, was Mr. Surgey to do when they come to his knowledge? He had taken the great bulk of the shares and had disposed of them to his private friends, and stood therefore in a position of responsibility far greater than that of an ordinary shareholder. When the fact came to his knowledge that Mr. Parsons was the owner of the land which the company required, he called a meeting, at which a committee of investigation was appointed. Of this committee Mr. Surgey was a member, and at a subsequent meeting, to which the press was invited, he spoke in terms condemnatory of the conduct of Parsons in competing with his own company. We confess we are unable to see what else he could have done. No language he could use could be stronger than that which fell from the Lord Chief Justice in his summing up, in which he denounced the conduct of Parsons in retaining his position of chairman when he had acquired interests incompatible with the right performance of its duties. But this is not a question which merely affects the plaintiff and defendant. It is one which has a general bearing on the relations of the public to those to whom they confide such important trusts. And if, as it is believed, Mr. Parsons is only the type of a class; if there are other directors and chairmen of railway companies who use their trust to further their own interests, then shareholders stand in a position of the greatest peril, and the sooner an investigation takes place into the grounds for this belief the better. It is a question which deeply affects the state of commercial morality. For if the glaring "indiscretions," which Mr. Parsons admits, are to pass current as lawful or even pardonable acts, there is an end to all honour amongst commercial men. The security of shareholders depends entirely upon the good faith of their chairman and directors, and if any of these place themselves in a position in which good faith becomes impossible, they are no longer fit for their office. It is idle for Mr. Parsons to complain of libel when the objects imputed to him by Mr. Surgey have actually been fulfilled. He has sold to the company the two acres which he and Mr. Blake purchased for £2,000, at the enhanced price of £4,210; he has got the highest price he could for the land, when it was his duty to purchase it for the company at the lowest; and that is just what Mr. Surgey charged him with intending to do. There is no reason to doubt that if he could have got the £7,500 his solicitors at first demanded, or the £20,000 for which their second claim was sent in, he would have taken it. It is certain that, though he considered the second demand excessive, he did not repudiate it. He modestly suggested to

his solicitor that it would be better to take £6,000, if he could get it; and when Mr. Kendall replied that the claim ought to go before the arbitrator as it was, he made no further objection. Where, then, is the ground for libel? If the chairman of a railway company may buy land and sell it to the shareholders, where are we to stop? May he not also use his position to sell them rails for their line and the carriages and locomotives which are to roll over them, and whatever else railways require, down to the very grease-pots, at an enhanced price, under some other name? There is no limit to such an abuse of power or to the jobbing which may be practised under it. Against so pernicious a system, Mr. Surgey has resolutely set himself. By doing so he has earned the gratitude, not only of the Hammersmith Railway Company, but of all railway shareholders, and we shall be much disappointed if he is allowed to bear unaided the cost of the jury's perverse decision.

THE BURNING OF THE QUEEN'S COLLEGE AT CORK.

THE burning of the Cork College last summer has given rise to a singular and almost unprecedented dispute between the President, Sir Robert Kane, and Dr. Bullen, the Professor of Surgery. The whole business is involved in some obscurity, but the violence of the quarrel between the two gentlemen in question is incontrovertible. Last July, it was stated on good authority, in the House of Commons, that one of the Professors of the Queen's College was in the habit of maintaining that the building was in reality fired by one of the College officers themselves. The assertion at the time gave rise to much curiosity and no little scandal, and Cork itself was violently agitated about it. After some trouble, the President discovered that Dr. Bullen was the Professor alluded to in the House, and that he was prepared to be responsible for the dissemination of so inconvenient a rumour. Depositions to that effect had been made by him to the Irish Government; and, unless we are mistaken, the gravest charges against Sir Robert Kane formed the burden of them. It seems that Dr. Bullen is in the habit of keeping a common-place book, in which interchanges of confidences of a violent political nature with Sir Robert Kane stand duly recorded at length. On May 14, one of these interviews occurred, at which Sir Robert Kane is accused by Dr. Bullen of having exhibited considerable animosity against the Government on account of their alleged subservience to the Irish Ultramontanes. Dr. Bullen's memorandum proceeds with some detail to relate how Sir Robert declared that his mind was made up; that he intended to go to London next day to place his resignation straightway in Sir Robert Peel's hands; and to have no more to do with the Queen's Colleges under so temporizing a Ministry as the present. Dr. Bullen, on the other hand, remarked—if his narrative be correct—that the proper course to be pursued was to bring about a more friendly feeling between the Catholic prelates and the Ministry; and, if possible, to reconcile the Queen's Colleges with the Roman Catholic Church. This view, we are given to understand, excited much indignation in Sir Robert Kane's bosom. On leaving the room, he flung out a culminating taunt at the flirtations of the Lord-Lieutenant with Popery; these being the last words, as far as the evidence goes, which passed between himself and Dr. Bullen till after the fire:—

"Bullen, if you want the presidency, get the Rev. Dominick Murphy to write a line to the Castle, hinting it would be agreeable to Dr. Delany to have you appointed. That is the way things are done by the Castle people. A priest calls there and says Dr. Cullen would be pleased if the Lord-Lieutenant would do so and so. Of course the thing is done. Such is the way in which Ireland is governed."

On the assumption that Sir Robert Kane was really about to resign, or, at all events, that he was likely to be removed, it is in fact certain that Dr. Bullen did apply to be made president in his stead, and professedly with Sir Robert's full sanction. The letters in which the application was contained are extant, nor is any secret made of them by Dr. Bullen. After the foregoing conversation, however, and on the same or the next night the College was burnt by an unknown hand.

A few days later the ensuing memorandum, purporting to be extracted by Dr. Bullen from his common-place book, was laid by him before the Lord-Lieutenant, and its accuracy sworn to. It professes to recount the details of a fresh colloquy between himself and Sir Robert Kane.

"Sir Robert and Lady Kane called in the evening, after tea, to take leave of Mrs. Bullen and the girls. While the ladies were talking together, Sir Robert and I discussed the College and the fire. He said

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he was sure the fire was the act of some fanatic, influenced by the Ultramontane priests. I replied that, in my opinion, modern fanatics did not burn valuable property for the honour of God; they seemed quite content in dooming eternal souls to fire; that my most intimate friends were among the Catholic clergy, who had been loudest in condemning the College, but they had no more to do with burning the College than the man in the moon. We then spoke about the distress among the artisans, the demands for public works, and the effect produced upon the popular mind by the pastorals of Dr. Cullen and of Dr. M'Hale. Sir Robert said, 'You know, Bullen, these pastorals of the Ultramontane bishops create feelings among the lower orders which encourage the commission of agrarian and other great crimes.' I replied, 'Nobody, Sir Robert, deploras more than I do the injuries which political and factious ecclesiastics inflict upon real religion and the best interests of Ireland.' Sir Robert then suggested to me that we should draw up a joint report to Government upon the origin of the fire, and attribute the crime to Ultramontane influence. I told him—Sir Robert, I will do no such thing; and I strongly advise you not to write anything to Government but what you can swear to from your own knowledge.

"July 9, 1863.—From that hour to this I have not held any private communication, either oral or written, with Sir Robert Kane.

"DENIS BRENNAN BULLEN, M.D.

"Cork, 4, Camden-place, July 9, 1863."

These documents, as laid before the Lord-Lieutenant in the first instance, have been subsequently placed before the College Council at the request of the president, Sir Robert Kane, and published by him at the end of the annual report. The whole of these conversations Sir Robert altogether denies; he maintains, in short, that Dr. Bullen has invented them. Dr. Bullen, in turn, adheres to them word for word, and to this hour insinuates, if he does not affirm, that it is inside, and not outside, the College walls, that the true criminal will be found. That Dr. Bullen himself is not untinged with what may, without impropriety, be termed religious fanaticism, is plain, from one of the letters addressed by him to the titular Bishop of Cork, which is to be read in the midst of the published correspondence:—

"Having now explained to your lordship my relations and opinions with regard to the Queen's Colleges, I must reverently inquire of you, as my legitimate spiritual authority, whether I have committed sin or violated Catholic discipline by my exertions to promote the establishment of the Queen's Colleges, which have incurred the condemnation of the National Synod; whether I commit sin or violate Catholic discipline by sending my sons to the Queen's College, where they will obtain the means of learning their several professions and secure their future maintenance, while their morals and religion are protected by living under my parental care; and whether I commit sin or violate Catholic discipline by teaching the practice of surgery within the Queen's College, and allowing the students of the Queen's College to participate with me in the surgical practice of the North Infirmary?"

A calm perusal of the above brief facts will convince any sober man of the enormous difficulties of working the Queen's Colleges in Ireland or of finding a glimmer of reason among furious theological partisans. It would be ludicrous—supposing even that Dr. Bullen's testimony was reliable—to draw from it the inferences which he desires. It is by no means a sign of a guilty mind in Sir Robert Kane to hold that Lord Carlisle is too much under the influence of those whom Sir Robert disapproves, nor is it a proof of more than ordinary Irish fanaticism for Sir Robert at once to wish to attribute an incendiary fire to his theological opponents. It shows a curious state of things when a fire cannot happen in Cork without one party assuming that it is the handiwork of Dr. Cullen and his votaries. It is even more curious that a Catholic should jump at the conclusion that another Catholic thinking so must be the incendiary himself. If the University Church at Oxford were burnt down in a night, it is not easy to conceive of Dr. Pusey at once fixing the blame on the admirers of Mr. Jowett; or of Mr. Jowett solemnly and upon no evidence at all laying an information at the Home Office against Dr. Pusey. In Ireland it seems quite natural. Nobody minds. Nobody pays much attention to the controversy, not even the Lord-Lieutenant, inasmuch as the Under Secretary of State seems to have informed the theological belligerents that they must fight out the question who burnt the college among themselves. The accusation is, doubtless, regarded at the Castle as a social phenomenon incident to a very hot theological atmosphere. Cork surgeons and professors are like gun cotton, and go off without the very least notice; while with even ordinarily explosive substances, nothing at all would happen. The affair reminds us forcibly of the horrid charges that good Christians used in the Middle Ages to bring against the Jews. No mother to this day, in some parts of Europe and of the East, ever loses a stray child without a firm conviction on the part of her ignorant neighbours that some rabbi has killed it for its blood. Dr. Bullen is a victim to some such blind frenzy about the firing of his college. The moral which we should have drawn would have been that it was not

safe to leave Dr. Bullen to teach at the institution over which Sir Robert Kane presides. The moral drawn by the Irish Executive is different. They understand the ways of the nation. They know these things, so far from mattering at all, promote liveliness and cheerfulness in the country. Accordingly, they have left the matter as they found it, putting upon record their opinion, that in such a conflict of testimony it would be hopeless to arrive at the real rights of the case. The only person who is likely to be of service seems to be the Catholic Bishop on whose absolution Dr. Bullen sets so high a value. Unless he is engaged for his part in accusing the Protestant Bishop of anything, it would be a mercy in him to interfere. Otherwise, a cat and dog life seems destined henceforward to be the portion of the Cork common room—if it be not a misnomer to imply that the Cork Professors can have even a common room in common.

A STORM IN A TEAKETTLE.

LORD WESTBURY, whose admirable disposal of his patronage is the general theme of his friends, has at last given away an appointment in a manner that throws all other Chancellors into the shade. Usually, when a fortunate man is selected for anything by anybody, there is a chorus of disapprobation among the less fortunate competitors. The nominee is pecked to death, just as a sickly and enfeebled crow is pecked by the other active and hungry crows who are weary of him. Every one gives a different version of the reasons, each more malicious than the last, which they know on the highest authority, for his promotion. Either somebody was married to the gentleman's wife's cousin, or he has an uncle with property in a borough which returns a nephew of the Government "whip." An illustrious personage, who is not now in office, once upon a time within the memory of man made a very bad appointment. The press howled with fury; the clubs laughed; even the House of Commons and his own party were disturbed. In the middle of the commotion a friend casually asked the noble patron why he had made it? He replied, with much nerve, that he had done so because the gentleman was his son-in-law. Such a reply showed both character and honesty; and the explanation was one which, as far as human nature was concerned, seemed satisfactory. The answer might be impolitic or not; but it was at least an answer.

The Lord Chancellor, however, with much humour, has succeeded in appointing a gentleman to a magistracy at Reading, whose best friends cannot, it seems, explain why he was raised to so unexpected a dignity. The Reading Town Council this week have been holding an indignation meeting upon the subject, at which the lucky man was rigidly cross-examined as to his own merits. A more startling species of inquisition could hardly ever be devised. May Heaven preserve the next of kin of all our Chancellors from so harrowing an ordeal. The Reading Town Council, however, were determined. Nor indeed were the facts otherwise than provocative of local curiosity. Three years ago, we are told, it was thought that Reading wanted more magistrates. The Town Council at the time named a committee to prepare a list of fitting persons; and from the list so prepared the name of the recently-appointed magistrate, Alderman Exall, was deliberately excluded. Six of the gentlemen upon that list were accordingly nominated by the Chancellor in 1860, and have since acted in the borough. From that date till now the population of Reading has not materially increased. There has been no vacancy on the bench of magistrates. Nothing has happened of any note, and it has been found that the thirteen magistrates in office were, if anything, too many for the work. This being the case, the Town Council were astonished, some weeks back, to learn that Alderman Exall the rejected had become Alderman Exall the triumphant, and that he had been placed, without a word, over the heads of his brother aldermen and the whole town. The Mayor and the rest of the Councillors have not spared him, and the unhappy Alderman Exall has been compelled to defend himself and his qualifications before a most unsympathetic audience.

When hunted fairly into a corner, the wretched Alderman himself was obliged fairly to give it up. It was for no political reason. It had nothing to do with any recent election. Mr. Shaw Lefevre, the sitting member,—as he himself protested through one of the town council,—knew nothing of it. Alderman Exall, with that extraordinary belief in his own personal attractions which is usually confined to popular preachers and to young women, himself thought the Queen must have had something to do with it.

"Mr. Alderman Exall.—I do not see that I have any explanation to

give. In fact I cannot give any explanation; and even if I could I do not know that I should. I may say that I have on several occasions done duty away from the town, which may have been somewhat considered. I have attended her Majesty, particularly when I have been requested, and given every satisfaction (loud laughter). I have been in council with the Prince Consort until his death, and I am now on a council-board with his son (laughter). If these are sufficient explanations why I am placed there, why, then, I will say no more about it (murmurs of dissatisfaction)."

This amusing apology opens up, as they say in popular lectures, a very curious vein of thought. Upon reading the above extract, we cannot but wonder what is Alderman Exall's exalted profession. If he only attended her Majesty, he might be anybody—even Sir Charles Phipps. If he had only gone when sent for, he would, in all probability, be a dentist or a hairdresser. As it is, he goes to Windsor Castle, but goes more particularly when requested—which leaves us where we were before; for this is a description which would suit the Duke of Cambridge or the Princes of Hohenzollern. This last view of the Alderman's position is, however, destroyed by the information, that when he goes he gives every satisfaction—an assertion that calls up floating ideas of Professor Eisenberg and chiropodists in general, and Thorley's food for cattle. His doing duty on several occasions away from the town is, doubtless, a roundabout way of saying that he is an energetic Volunteer; and sitting in council with the Prince Consort and the Prince of Wales, a privilege that possibly smacks of the Board of Guardians or a Masonic lodge. But these arguments furnish us at least with a comical insight into the play of Aldermanic minds. Alderman Exall cannot conceive that his elevation could be possibly connected with the stirring days in which he canvassed for votes for the Liberal candidate at Reading. The real turning-point of his luck must have been the happy moment when he caught the Queen's eye as he was curling the Royal children's hair. In his own imagination he conjured up the picture of what must have happened when he left the Palace—how an illustrious personage that is nameless asked another, who is equally nameless if that was Tomkins; and how the reply was, that not to know Tomkins was to argue oneself unknown. When the younger generation grew up, they would share in the infatuation of their parents, and a suppressed Tomkins-worship would thus become a Royal heirloom. Some such explanation the worthy alderman believed to be the true one of his being suddenly raised to the magistracy; and he evidently was a good deal mortified and surprised to discover that this very natural train of reasoning did not go down with the Reading Town Council. They could not understand that it all was because Mr. Exall had sat at the same table with the late Prince Consort, or because he had once met the Prince of Wales.

The reasons suggested in irony by some of the critics present to account for his good luck were less flattering. One town-councillor thought that thirteen was an ill-omened number of magistrates for Reading to possess, and that Lord Westbury was afraid, if he did not appoint Alderman Exall, lest some one of the present bench might die within the year. Another put it down to Mr. Baron Pigott. The general impression was that it was a mere political gift, for services rendered at election time. But Alderman Exall himself is so clear about his friends being of royal origin, that it would not be right to accuse the Chancellor of merely rewarding the agents of his party. The Town Council ended by passing an unanimous protest against the nomination, Mr. Alderman Exall alone dissenting. With that unassuming good-nature which we are bound to think has made him a favourite at Windsor and at Osborne, the Alderman took this hostile resolution very nicely. He kissed the rod, and seemed relieved that all was over. We have often come across humility, but never such as this before. In a newly-appointed magistrate it is almost overwhelming.

"Mr. Alderman Exall said, as the discussion was now finished, he felt extremely obliged to them for taking this step, which he did not disapprove of. He was extremely obliged to them that they had not in the discussion made any statement or inference derogatory to his character."

Such a speech, after such a resolution, is in itself a key to the whole affair. He knew, from Lord Westbury's own mouth, that his own distinguished success is owing less to his forensic gifts than to his practice of the Christian graces. In Alderman Exall he seems to have got hold of a Christian almost as graceful as himself, who is grateful even when his fellow-councillors snub him, if they do not insinuate that he is a scoundrel. It is a refreshing sight; and it is a pleasant thought that Lord Westbury has time to keep his eye upon these lilies of the valley, and occasionally to reward them for their modest beauty.

BRITISH MEDICINE.

THE reforming wind that has so steadily set in, and which is shaking so profoundly all the old social and political foundations, is now searching the province of medicine. The Medical Council, a new institution delegated by Parliament with authority to regulate the affairs of this important profession, having declared free trade in physic between the members of the different colleges of the three kingdoms—for heretofore England was exclusively for the English, Ireland for the Irish, and Scotland for the Scotch: whereas, now, every British physician or surgeon is free to practise in any part of the three kingdoms—the Council has just inaugurated another important reform, by issuing a new Pharmacopœia for the United Kingdom in place of the three formerly sanctioned by the different Colleges of Physicians. Although disease is pretty much the same everywhere in the three kingdoms, yet it is only now the faculty have determined that the weapons to combat it shall be fashioned on the same plan. Formerly a prescription written in London was not available in Edinburgh, neither was an Edinburgh prescription of use in Dublin. The methods of preparing the different drugs were different, and their degrees of strength dissimilar. All these matters have now been amicably arranged. The new Pharmacopœia is in the hands of every practitioner of medicine, and all are now busy at school again, mastering the new preparations, and struggling with the new arrangement of weights and measures. Upon examination, the new Pharmacopœia is not found to differ in many material points from the old one, but many useless drugs have been eliminated from its pages, and others of proved use in practice have received a place in the official list. Judged from year to year, our progress in *Materia Medica* has not been rapid, but if we judge by the lapse of a century, we see that the weapons with which we now combat disease are as far in advance of those used in the time of Radcliffe and Meade—those famous old English physicians of a little more than a hundred years ago—as the rifles of the present day are in advance of the bows and arrows of the times of the Plantagenets. Looking over the London Pharmacopœia, published in the year 1721, and which formed the text-book of the profession for thirty years, we were struck with the disgusting nature of many of the remedies swallowed by the "quality" of that day. Ointments were prepared with the fat of serpents, dogs, badgers, &c. Decoctions of vipers, confections of crabs' eyes, &c., were then in common use. Some of the preparations recognised by the *élite* of the "faculty" seem to have been chosen simply for their peculiar filthiness and for their downright bestiality. Thus we find among the animal preparations in use the slough of a snake, the marrow of a stag's leg, the inward skin of the gizzard of a hare, dogs' ordure, the warts growing on horses' feet,—erudite remedies, no doubt, which impressed the credulous patients of those days and turned into guineas in the physician's pocket; but even these were far less forbidding medicines than were in vogue as late as the time of the Stuarts, when the aim of medicine seems to have been to act upon the body through the mind. The remedies were such as would have delighted Mrs. Radcliffe, being deeply imbued with romantic mystery, and appallingly terrifying withal. Thus Sir Kenelm Digby recommends the moss scraped from a dead man's skull. Another pharmacopœial preparation of the day was pounded human bones, pounded wolf's teeth, and "the hemp of a rope, with which a man had been hung." If Calcraft had lived in those days his professional implements would have been invaluable. In short, medicine was about as far advanced as it is at present among savages. A certain physician, it is true, has of late been prescribing for his patients the dung of serpents, and the keeper of the reptile-house at the Zoological Gardens has suddenly found that his perquisites are increased in value; but this is only one of those back eddies in the stream of progress which testify to the advance we are making.

Although the drugs now in use by the regular physician are authorized by the Medical Council, that body have no authority or means of regulating the issue of enormous quantities of physic known under the name of "Patent Medicines." The public are victimized by these medicines in the most outrageous manner. A visit to Messrs. Hannay and Dietrichsen's shop in Oxford-street, the principal agent for the sale of patent medicines, is one of the most entertaining things in London—to the cynic. Here he will find a score of secret preparations for almost every ill that flesh and blood is heir to. A glance at the advertising sheet of the cheaper London newspapers affords another proof of the amount of money the public are gulled out of by the concoctors of quack medicines, for they are nothing more. In many cases the advertiser, after bestowing

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upon his panacea for bodily ailments appropriate panegyrics, ends by saying that none other are genuine except those "sold with the Government stamp," and poor people actually believe that the Government thereby guarantees the value of the medicine so sold! The grand secret of the success of many of these compounds is the mystery with which they are surrounded. It is a disgrace to the Government that it continues to give protection to a system which gulls the public in this outrageous manner, and it is, we think, some reflection upon the value of the Medical Council that it makes no effort to induce the Chancellor of the Exchequer to throw down that screen for fraud, the Government stamp—for it is nothing better,—and for not insisting that every medical preparation sold shall contain a detailed account of the method of its preparation. No honest medicine need fear the open day, and no fraudulent one should be permitted to flourish under Government patronage. The Medical Council apparently are afraid to encounter this powerful "vested interest," but have made a swoop at the smaller game of what is termed "counter practice" of chemists and druggists. In England everything is first, second, and third class, from religion downwards. In the upper classes, the highly-educated physician is in attendance; in the middle classes, the general practitioner; but for the enormous body of the poorer class, there is no medical attendant (except now and then the parish doctor) but the chemists and druggists to attend upon them. A poor man when he is ill goes to the counter and asks for something that is good for his "inside," as though it were a tank out of order. The mother, led by the glaring red bull's-eye that is seen afar, goes to the same rendezvous for some "quietner" for the baby, and old women consult across the counter about their spasms. It certainly is great presumption in a mere retailer of drugs to take the place of the regularly-educated medical practitioner, and we have no doubt that the "doctor's stuff" sold is often very deleterious, but it is questionable to us whether any great advantage would be gained by prohibiting the practice altogether. The very poor would never go to the regular medical man, unless they go as gratuitous patients, and of these he already has sufficient. The only method, as far as we can see, by which the general practitioner's services can be made available by the working classes, is through the medium of the club system, which we are glad to find is spreading.

This is in fact a mutual health insurance system, in which the strong pay for the weak, and it can be and is worked with perfect success. Until some such system as this is generally established, we fear the druggist must be the doctor of the poor, and that the Medical Council will fail in their attempt to take his usurped function from him. At the present moment, the very poor are the most bedrugged of all classes. They like doctors' stuff; they seem to believe that it has actual power in hunting out and killing a disease, just as a terrier has the power of hunting out and killing a rat. This is the result of believing disease to be some foreign entity instead of a mere disordered condition of the body. Considering that this doctrine has so long been prevalent among their betters, this is not to be wondered at. Fashion in affairs medical, however, penetrates in time, by regular gradations, from the highest to the lowest class, just as it does in matters of dress. Among the more wealthy and intelligent a rebellion has arisen against the drugging system, for which the laws regulating the Apothecaries' Company are mainly to blame. The general practitioner holds the licence of this company, and as it is the practice only to charge for medicine, the consequence is that a vast deal more medicine is sent in than is required, in order to make up a fee that will be remunerative. Strange to say, this physic-giving mania has long been followed by physicians, and hence the revolt of the upper classes and the progress of the homoeopathic doctrine, which is to give no medicine at all. A better spirit is, however, abroad in the profession. Like others, it has profited by a revolution from without; and the practice of charging for visits instead of for physic, now gradually gaining ground, will before long utterly put an end to the abuse of drugs so long practised in this country.

THE PROUD POOR.

It cannot be denied that we have, of late years, made earnest and not ineffective efforts to meet the many forms in which poverty presents itself, and lessen at least the extreme sufferings of the destitute. We have felt that there was much which parish officers could not do in this behalf, and not a little that they would not do—to the scandal of our age. Harrowing stories were told from time to time of women and children fainting with hunger and weariness, driven from the workhouse

door at night, and in the depth of winter; nor was it a rare thing to see heaps of human beings lying huddled together against the workhouse walls under rain or snow—tramps, vagrants, incorrigible beggars, if you will—but still of the same flesh and blood as ourselves. Even now, with all that we have done to correct this, to supplement by private generous effort the shortcomings of workhouse officers, no one can walk our streets at night without lighting upon some outcast who is fain to take a night's lodging on a door-step, reckless, in her extreme of misery, whether this refuge is the last for which she will trouble the world—perhaps even praying that it may be so. Still we cannot think of the night refuges which have recently sprung up without taking a hopeful view of the future, and believing that before very long private charity will so multiply them that in every quarter of the town weary, dejected, fainting humanity will find a door open to welcome it, a fire-side at which it can rest, a bed to lie down in and dream of a happier to-morrow. But with all that we have done and are doing, there is still a form of poverty for which we have provided little or nothing. For strenuous poverty that will do battle for its rights, and clamour till it gets them, there is the workhouse, with an appeal to the police-court. For timid poverty there is the more willing mercy of the night refuge. For genteel destitution there is the House of Charity in Soho. But for proud, struggling poverty, for the poverty that will rather die than expose its thin clothing and empty cupboard to an official of any kind, and which daily, by inches, wears life out, toiling and famishing till, from sheer exhaustion, the heart ceases to beat—for this kind of poverty we have provided nothing.

Let us look, by way of example, at the facts which came out before the coroner on Monday last, upon an inquiry into the death of Mrs. Lydia Taylor. She was a woman in the prime of life, a widow with an only daughter, whose joint earnings, when times were prosperous, amounted to between 4s. and 4s. 6d. per week. The mother's work consisted in stitching button-holes in gentlemen's collars at 2½d. per dozen; and when she was in full employment she could earn by this trade 2s. per week. The daughter went out charring, and brought home weekly from 2s. to 2s. 6d. Out of this magnificent income 1s. 6d. went every week for rent, and on the remaining 3s. mother and daughter had to feed and clothe themselves. Of course the process was not one of feeding but of starving, and we are not surprised to find that for a month before her death Mrs. Taylor so far succumbed that she was unable to work any longer. Let us take a closer look into this famine-stricken home, in which an English mother and her child were "dying by inches." They had no bed to lie upon. In happier days, that is when the full income of 4s. 6d. was coming in, they had—shavings. But when the trembling fingers could no longer hold the needle, this luxury had to be relinquished, as altogether too costly; and the two weary hearts throbbed together on the boards without covering, beyond their threadbare and scanty clothing. Sometimes, by way of relief, they preferred sitting up all night. "We were often without fire," said the girl, "and sometimes for weeks without tasting meat." A single chair was the only furniture of their room; two others, which once belonged to them, had been taken to the "leaving shop." Death could not long be warded off from such a home, unless some ministering angel interfered. No such visitant came. On Wednesday week, when the girl returned from her work, she made tea for her mother, and got her "three farthings' worth of butter!" The deceased complained of pain, and lay down on the floor. There presently her daughter, who meantime had left the house and returned, found her dead. "Her flesh," said the doctor who was called in, "was pale and flaccid. Death resulted from pleuropneumonia, to which want of sustenance and exposure to cold had predisposed her." Literally she died of cold and hunger—of sheer starvation; and the coroner, who has seen many cases of this kind, said sorrowfully that "it was one of the saddest that had ever come before him."

But why did not she apply to the workhouse? The answer is, "She was too proud." There are cold and inconsiderate people who will say that hers was false pride. For our own part it is a pride we reverence. Observe the home of this poor woman and her child: for a month their sole support was the half-crown earned by their daughter. Yet up to the mother's death their rent was regularly paid. Observe their industry: through hunger and cold they toil on till the mother can toil no longer, making no complaint, shrinking from an exposure of their sufferings, patiently, with the heroism of martyrs, making both ends meet though death ties the knot. They were "steady, quiet people," says Mrs. Anne Nicholson. "Deceased was very reserved, but witness could see she had not enough

to keep life together. She would not apply for relief as she was too proud to go into the workhouse." So, again, says the daughter: "Deceased had never applied to the parish for relief, as she was afraid they would make her go into the workhouse." Is this to be wondered at? Rather it is a comment on the working of our poor laws, which should make us doubt whether the relief they bestow is not neutralized by the degradation they inflict. Mrs. Taylor is not the only Englishwoman who, between the workhouse and death, has preferred the latter. It is not our purpose to discuss this point. Right or wrong, there are natures too proud to petition the relieving officer. Mrs. Taylor was the representative of a class, not inconsiderable in point of numbers, who will suffer any extremes of poverty rather than expose their need to coarse investigation or brutal repulse. If charity is to aid them it must approach them with gentleness and respect. And in our happy and prosperous England is it too much to hope that gentlewomen might be found in every parish of this metropolis who would make it their work to seek out and comfort their proud, reserved, and sorrowing sisters—to let it be known, at least, that a hint whispered in the ear of the parish clergyman will find its way to hearts willing and able to give such help as even a proud woman may accept without humiliation?

THE MUNSTER FLAX-IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY.

TWENTY years ago, when Ireland was in the throes of the Repeal monster meetings, her patriots were told that the best hopes of their country would be found in the development of her industrial resources; but it is only now, after famine and emigration have depopulated the land, that they are waking to a belief in this sage warning. Better late than never. The report of the Munster Flax-Improvement Society was read last week at a meeting in the Corn Exchange, Cork. Within the past year there has been an increase of 700 acres brought under flax cultivation; scutch mills have been erected, and a company established to provide a market for their produce, and extended employment for all ages, sexes, and classes. Agriculturists have come, through the aid of discussion, to the conclusion that the flax crop can be introduced into the rotation system with good results; and while, in 1862, the extent of cultivation required only seven practical instructors in pulling, steeping, and drying the crop, seventeen were required in 1863. By August next, we are assured 10,000 spindles will be at work, and able to consume an amount of flax represented by 3,000 acres. The men of Munster are stimulated to push on in this new movement by the contrast between the south and the north. But the Ulster manufacturers give them something more than this stimulus. "I can bear testimony," said Mr. Maguire, at the Cork meeting, "to the fact that anything like the kindly spirit inspired there towards us was never witnessed. On every side there are men earnest and desiring to assist us. We hear no words but words of encouragement; and all I can say upon the matter is, that if we do not realize the expectations which we ourselves have thrown out, I believe we shall degrade ourselves not only in our own eyes, but in those of the whole empire." A subscription list in aid of the funds having been opened at the close of the meeting, the sum of £70 was subscribed on the spot. Mr. Maguire intimated that when a certain amount had been contributed by the nobility and gentry of the district, Government might be induced to add an equal sum to the capital of the company.

THE RELIGIOUS "PERSUASIONS" OF IRELAND.

ON Thursday full tables of the last census of Ireland were issued, dividing the religious professions of the people into—Established Church, Roman Catholics, Presbyterians, Methodists, Independents, Baptists, Quakers, "all other persuasions," and Jews. Under the head "all other persuasions," we find some curious descriptions, put down by the people themselves. 112 have described themselves simply as "Christians," and 68 as "High Church." Then there are 51 "Christian Israelites," and 40 "Brethren"—not Plymouth Brethren. 28 rank themselves as "Disciples of Christ," 14 are "Darbyites," 9 "Kellyites," 3 "Walkerites," 3 "Morrissonians," and 1 "Cameronian." 9 simply declare themselves "Believers in Jesus," 5 as "Members of Christ's Church," 8 as "Sinners saved by Grace." We find also such designations as these:—"Brethren in Christ" (2), "Church of Christ" (2), "The Word of God Alone" (2), "Self-opinion or the Church of God" (1). One man writes himself down "a saint of no sect," and a man and a woman say they are "of no particular persuasion." Two go a little further than the last, and say that they are "undecided." Two others are "doubtful," 44 males and 28 females say they are of "no religion." One is a "philanthropist," another a "positivist," and another a "Cromwellian Protestant." There are 4 Socialists, 21 Freethinkers, 20 Secularists, 19 Deists, 1 Unbeliever (a woman), and 1 Atheist. Two are "Rationalists," 2 "Materialists," and 2 avow themselves to be "Seekers." One is a "Puseyite." The Unitarians are divided under the heads of "Unitarians" simply, of whom there are 3,800; "Unitarian Presbyterians," 201; "non-subscribing Presbyterians," 167; and "Arians," 32. Several of this denomination, however, are ranked under the general

head of "Presbyterians." The figures of the general return are as follows:—Established Church—males 339,314, females 354,043; Roman Catholics—males 2,205,053, females 2,300,212; Presbyterians—males 254,734, females 268,557; Methodists—males 21,290, females 24,109; Independents—males 2,112, females 2,420; Baptists—males 2,141, females 2,096; Society of Friends or Quakers—males 1,680, females 1,680; all other persuasions—males 10,846, females 7,952; Jews—males 200, females 193.

EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN.

THE Society for Promoting the Employment of Women has, in the short period of its existence, and looking to the difficulties it has had to overcome, achieved much. In drapers' and haberdashers' shops alone there are now, in London, nearly two thousand more women employed than there were ten years ago, and in the rest of England and Wales nearly eight thousand. Similar increase of female employment has taken place in other branches of trade. In the census of 1851 there is no mention of female accountants or clerks, while 34 of the former and 274 of the latter class appear in the last census. That the field for operations is still vast, we may judge from the fact that 500 candidates replied to an advertisement for a nursery governess, and 300 for an employment which gave only board and lodging without pay. There is much which men do, and which ought to be done by women. For instance, some 20,000 men get their living by plaiting straw and making bonnets, and a greater number are hairdressers, wig and stay-makers—occupations fit for women, and degrading to men. No wonder that out of fifty women who apply weekly for work to the society in Langham-place, only ten can be provided for. Let it be known that the society's register books afford the best guidance for employers who want hands, either in copying, book-keeping, photographing, and decorative work, or in the plainest mechanical employments, then, its Working Women's College, when in operation, will give an impulse to the industrial education of women which should secure help for the society. Whoever deplores the sufferings of the weaker sex, of which every day gives us proofs, will sympathize with the noble women who are, under great difficulties and some unmanly misrepresentation, endeavouring to bestow permanent benefit on their sex, and will do what they can to further their efforts. There is no wiser policy, and no more fruitful field for philanthropy.

KING KAMEHAMEHA.

ON the 30th of November died Kamehameha the Fourth, king of Hawaii. Under his auspices a branch of the English Church was planted in the Polynesian Islands. The Bishop of Honolulu writes to the *Guardian* a description of his last days and moments, which, if not highly coloured, shows the Polynesian to have been a very extraordinary personage. He died of grief from the loss of his only son, for whose death he sought consolation in furthering the work of the Church Mission, and translating the Book of Common Prayer. "A man," says the Bishop, describing him, "of rare physical powers, of elegant tastes, keen perceptions, who could enjoy Kingsley, Thackeray, Tennyson, and was ever quoting Shakespeare. The bent of his mind was still theological." He was familiar with the works of Wheatley, Palmer, Courayer, and Perceval.

"The Sunday following his decease the church was crowded at all the services. The Ministers and Court attended at the Hawaiian service, and I preached on the occasion. The sermon has been printed in the native newspaper. The church was almost lined with black; the altar-cloth and reredos in deep mourning (this was done at the expense of the Legislature). Two large *Ka-hi-li's*, the symbols of royal authority, and the King's military hat and sword were placed conspicuously in the royal pew. A beautiful lament in Hawaiian was sung by the choir to the air "Can those eyes in death reposing." All was most touching and solemn. We felt that the nursing father of our infant Church had been taken from us."

The King is succeeded by his brother, Kamehameha the Fifth, "a man of strong will, well educated, a thorough gentleman," who, like his brother and the Queen Dowager, is well disposed towards the Church Mission.

SERVANT GIRLS AND THEIR DRESSES.

A CORRESPONDENT calls our attention to some passages from Cowper, which show that the complaint mistresses of the present day make of "dressy" servants is not new, and that our servants are not a whit more given to dress than those of seventy years ago. In "The Sofa" are the following lines:—

"There often wanders one whom better days
Saw better clad in cloak of satin, trimm'd
With lace, and hat with splendid riband bound.
A serving maid was she, and fell in love
With one who left her, went to sea and died."

Again, in Book IV. of "The Task," we have:—

"The rural lass
Whom once her virgin modesty and grace,
Her artless manners, and her neat attire,
So dignified, that she was hardly less
Than the fair shepherdess of old romance,

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Is seen no more. The character is lost!
Her head adorn'd with lappets pinn'd aloft,
And ribands streaming gay, superbly raised,
And magnified beyond all human size,
Indebted to some smart wig-weaver's hand
For more than half the tresses it sustains;
Her elbows ruffled, and her tottering form
Ill propp'd upon French heels; she might be deem'd
(But that the basket dangling on her arm
Interprets her more truly) of a rank
Too proud for dairy work or sale of eggs."

Then hear what is said in "The Timepiece" about dress, amongst the middle and upper classes of that date:—

"We have run
Through every change that fancy, at the loom
Exhausted, has had genius to supply
And studious of mutation still, discard
A real elegance, a little used,
For monstrous novelty and strange disguise.
We sacrifice to dress, till household joys
And comforts cease. Dress drains our cellar dry,
And keeps our larder lean; puts out our fires;
And introduces hunger, frost, and woe,
Where peace and hospitality might reign."

Then, on the pecculations of servants, we find the "valet" and his raids upon his master's clothes thus described:—

"The sycophant,
Who waits to dress us, arbitrates their date;
Snuffs his fair reversion with keen eye;
Finds one ill-made, another obsolete,
This fits not nicely, that is ill-conceived;
And making prize of all that he condemns,
With our expenditure defrays his own."

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY.

OF all the matter-of-fact men we have heard or read of commend us to the "muddled-aged man, dressed in the garb of an engineer," who, as the police report tells us, entered the Southwark Police Court, on Monday, "in rather a flurried manner," and begged his worship's assistance with regard to a letter sent to his son on the previous Saturday, bearing on the envelope the words "On Her Majesty's service." The letter fell not into the son's hands but the father's, and threw the simple man at once into a state of bewildered agitation. When he opened it he found to his horror it was a summons, and bearing in mind the words on the outside, probably his idea, if he was able to form one, was that his son had been guilty of high treason. True, it was headed "Court of Hymen," but, not having had the advantage of a classical education, this only made the matter worse and plunged him into still deeper terror and perplexity. Reading on, he was dismayed to find his son summoned to "appear on the 14th at the Court of Hymen to answer the charge of stealing the heart of Amelia Smart," the summoning officer signing himself "J. Lovewell." Flat burglary! "I have read it," said the terrified father, "and can't make out what it means. I don't know any such place as the Court of Hymen. I know this police-court, therefore I thought it advisable to come here about it." "But, can't you see," said the clerk, "what it is? It is a valentine. I suppose it has been sent to your son by some young woman he knows." Even then the knot was not solved for him. "It does not look like a valentine," said he, "and I think something ought to be done to stop their circulation, as they are liable to frighten some people." Then it came out that the son has "a young woman" who "comes after him," and his father, not yet awake to the joke, wished to know if he could not prosecute her for sending "such a summons," and left the court "very dissatisfied" when he found he could not. No explanation could convince him that the Court of Hymen and Amelia Smart were compatible with his peace of mind.

RENTS AND LIVING IN PARIS.

THE increase of rents in Paris has long been a subject of complaint, for which there seems to be so little remedy, that the evil rather grows. A suite of apartments in the Champs Elysee, consisting of seven bedrooms, two drawing-rooms, one dining-room, and servants' offices, brings 30,000 francs (£12,000) per annum; and the attic very plainly furnished, 4,000 (£160). If you would indulge in roast beef, you can do so at a cost of one and threepence per pound; in *fillet*, at between two and three francs—to cook which coals and wood may be bought at £2 per ton. We manage, then, the things better—at least cheaper—in London, in spite of all our taxation.

"YOUNG YORICK" contributes to *Notes and Queries* some of the witty sayings for which Archbishop Whately was famous in Dublin:—"What is the difference," he asked of a young clergyman he was examining, "between a form and a ceremony? The meaning seems nearly the same; yet there is a very nice distinction." Various answers were given. "Well," he said, "it lies in this: you sit upon a form, but you stand upon ceremony."—"Morrow's Library" is the *Mudie* of Dublin; and the Rev. Mr. Day, a popular preacher. "How inconsistent," said the archbishop, "is the piety of certain ladies here

They go to-day for a sermon and to-morrow for a novel!"—At a dinner party he called out suddenly to the host, "Mr. —!" There was silence. "Mr. —, what is the proper female companion of this John Dory?" After the usual number of guesses an answer came, "Anne Chovy."—Doctor Gregg:—The new bishop and he at dinner. Archbishop: "Come, though you are John Cork, you mustn't stop the bottle here." The answer was not inapt: "I see your lordship is determined to draw me out."—On Doctor K—x's promotion to the bishopric of Down, an appointment in some quarters unpopular:—"The Irish government will not be able to stand many more such Knox Down as this!"—At a lord-lieutenant's banquet a grace was given of unusual length. "My lord," said the archbishop, "did you ever hear the story of Lord Mulgrave's chaplain?" "No," said the lord-lieutenant. "A young chaplain had preached a sermon of great length. 'Sir,' said Lord Mulgrave, bowing to him, 'there were some things in your sermon of to-day I never heard before.' 'O, my lord,' said the flattered chaplain, 'it is a common text, and I could not have hoped to have said anything new on the subject.' 'I heard the clock strike twice,' said Lord Mulgrave." At some religious ceremony at which he was to officiate in the country, a young curate who attended him grew very nervous as to their being late. "My good young friend," said the archbishop, "I can only say to you what the criminal going to be hanged said to those around, who were hurrying him, 'Let us take our time; they can't begin without us.'"

HIGH gales have been prevalent in all parts of England and Scotland during the last few days, and shipping disasters are reported from every part of the coast. The storm appears to have raged with the greatest violence on Saturday in the north of England and in Scotland.

THE numbers now in the Queen's College, Cork, are—Roman Catholics, 110; Established Church, 100; Presbyterians, 12; Wesleyans, 12; the total number being 245. These figures show that, since last year, the Roman Catholic students have increased from 40·2 per cent. to 44·9 per cent.

HANSOM CABS have been introduced into the island of Trinidad, in the West Indies.

A FINE strong and lively salmon, between 2 and 3 feet in length, is now in one of the ponds at the Regent's-park Zoological Gardens, having been brought there through the perseverance of Dr. Buckland.

RECENTLY a somewhat unusual marriage was solemnized at St. Paul's Church in this town. The bridegroom, who wants but one year to complete the age of fourscore, assisted his tottering steps to the altar with a crutch and stick, while the bride, who is four years his junior, used a crutch only. Surely sympathy will not be wanting between this newly-married pair.—*Tiverton Gazette*.

A PUZZLING QUERY.—Question: If Brigham Young, the Mormon, were to lose one of his sixty wives, would he be a widower? Answer: Not enough to hurt him.—*American Paper*.

A PRIVATE letter from Auckland states that there has been no more fighting since the battle of which we had news last week, and that most of the New Zealand chiefs have accepted Sir George Grey's terms of submission.

ON Tuesday so'nnight a fancy ball was given by the Duke de Morny. Amongst the dresses which created the greatest sensation was that of Madame Turr, who was disguised as Hungary enchained, with the national costume, her *talpack*, the Hungarian *corsage*, ornamented with *brandeburgs*, and chains hanging from her head-dress to her neck. In her hand she held a small flag, with the embroidered cross of Hungary, and, to render that symbolic language more striking, she distributed a quantity of *pensées*. Moreover, she hung on the arm of a Venetian. The Emperor, to whom she gave one of her *pensées*, accepted the flower, and conversed rather lengthily with the wife of the Garibaldian general.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Indépendance Belge* says he has been assured that the Paris print shops are selling a new map of Europe for 1866, which represents Italy complete with Rome and Venice; France with the Rhine for its frontier; all Germany under the sceptre of Prussia, and a great Scandinavian empire in the north.

The *Presse* of Vienna says—"After the commonplace, equivocal, perfidious, and cowardly policy of the Cabinet of St. James's in the American question, there is nothing more disgraceful and at the same time more pitiable than that of Lord Palmerston and Earl Russell in the Dano-Germanic conflict."

THE *Moniteur de la Meurthe* says:—"The Prussian Minister of War, General de Roon, has just applied to the Convent of St. Charles, at Trèves, for eighteen Sisters of Charity, to attend on the sick and wounded Prussians in Schleswig. The superior-general at Nancy immediately acceded to the general's request. This is a flattering homage to Catholic charity rendered by a Protestant Government."

THE Zoological Garden in the Bois de Boulogne has been lately enriched by various presents from the Minister of Foreign Affairs, among which are thirty-five fish, which are only found in the lakes of Mexico. They are highly esteemed as food, and are easily fed.

A RECENT Salt Lake City letter speaks of the new theatre erected by the Mormons as one of the finest in the Union and adds:—"Last night I counted in Brigham Young's family box ninety-three women and children, and the box was not near full. He occupied an elegant private box with his two favourite wives."

MAZZINI's name has been formally included in the indictment for conspiracy against the life of the French Emperor, which is to come on for trial on the 25th inst.

THE *Pittsburg Chronicle* says that two breaksmen on the Oil Creek Railroad were frozen to death recently, one of whom rolled off the car, and the other was found at his post, his hands frozen to the break-wheel.

A TELEGRAM, dated Bombay, January 29, reports the *Alabama* off the west coast of India, where she had burnt the ship *Emma*, of New York.

THE Hon. R. J. Jejeebhoy, of Bombay, has offered 150,000 rupees to enable five native youths, to be selected from the three Presidencies, to proceed to England to qualify themselves to practise as barristers in India, on a footing of equality as regards legal training with European members of the bar.

THE disparity between the sexes is greater in British Colombia than in any other of our colonies. It is stated that nearly all the girls sent out by the steamers *Tynemouth* and *Robert Lowe* are now married and settled in life.

LETTERS patent grant to Serjeant J. H. Parry, serjeant-at-law, place and precedence next after Serjeant W. Ballantine.

THE CHURCH.

DE EXCOMMUNICATO CAPIENDO.

THE remedy for moral evil, at least in the ecclesiastico-religious sense, has at last been discovered. Dignified incumbents and aspiring curates may cry—*Ευρίκαμεν*, as they hold up the terrors of an immediate restoration of "godly Church discipline" to the astonished gaze of all the naughty boys and girls in their parishes. Curious enough, too, it has been quite an accidental discovery, owing, not to any direct search for the remedy, but to the fact of a number of grave, reverend, and learned divines having been called on, in a committee of the Convocation of Canterbury, to pronounce an opinion on a knotty Liturgical question relative to the Burial Service of the Church, to a solution of which the Episcopal bench is pledged in the present session of Parliament. It would be rather stale to apply to the case the hackneyed metaphor of the mountain; but, in truth, the committee has travailed sorely in deliberation over this service, and in a searching examination of all the changes which meddling reformers have from time to time suggested therein. It turns out, however, that the offspring, in its first aspect and proportions, is no pigmy, being a rather voluminous report extending over seventeen closely-printed foolscap pages, and so long that it was seriously proposed in the Lower House, contrary to all precedent, that instead of being read *in extenso*, it should be "taken as read"—a suggestion which, happily for the dignity of Convocation, was not adopted. The sum and substance, however, of this extraordinary production, which, when microscopically examined, certainly does dwindle down into a most "ridiculus mus," is that, since the chief, if not the sole, difficulty in the present use of the Burial Service is in the case of the "excommunicate"—or rather those who *ought to be* such, but unfortunately are not—the only remedy is in a restoration of what is politely called "godly Church discipline," but is in reality neither more nor less than the old major excommunication, bell, book, candle-light, &c. No remedy, thinks this committee, is possible by the change of a single sentence, word, or letter, of the service. "It would ill become the clergy to propose, on this account, to surrender any portion of the Book of Common Prayer, which is the common inheritance of laity and clergy alike," are its words; and so nature must be reversed, and the Church's influence over the minds of its members made to flow in some mediæval channel, like a river attempted to be forced into one of its ancient beds long since upheaved over the shoulders of the adjoining hills. But the strangest part of the matter is, that, though recommending the revival of excommunication, they deprive it of its sting—of the civil pains and penalties which alone give it force, and without which it would become, as Blackstone, in his "Commentaries," so aptly describes it, "the *brutum fulmen* of a petty country surrogate, which the obstinate and the profligate would despise." Such impotent fulminations of Church censure, however they might release the clergy from the legal obligation of reading the Burial Service over notorious evil livers, would no more deserve to be called "godly discipline" in an age of dissent and religious liberty, than the anathemas which have been hurled by the Pope against the King of Italy are entitled to that name.

The idea of restoring discipline of this kind is no new one. Three hundred years ago, when the Communion Service was included in the Prayer-book, its compilers lamented that the godly discipline of putting such persons as stood convicted of notorious sin to open penance, to be punished in this world, had fallen into disuse, and expressed a hope that it might be restored at a future day. But when they thought of a present substitute for it, they suggested no more than that "the general sentences of God's cursing against impenitent sinners should be read" in the hearing of the people. They never dreamed of censures felt neither in flesh nor in purse, which would be sure to irritate, but could rarely reform. It was reserved for the nineteenth century to attempt what the sixteenth judged to be impracticable so far as it could be useful, or useless so far as it was practicable. By the old law, 5 Eliz. c. 22, the *minor* excommunication cut off those placed under its ban from the sacraments of the Church; the *major* excommunication deprived those against whom it had been pronounced of the society of "the faithful"—that is, the *unexcommunicate*—and, moreover, disqualified them from serving as witnesses or jurors in a court of justice, precluded them from recovering debts in money or land by process of law; and, should the offence not be repented of and absolution obtained within forty days, they were liable, by a writ *de excommunicato capiendo*, to be cast into prison. The Act

53 Geo. III. c. 127, abolished these civil disabilities, but retained imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months. But so utterly out of keeping has been this law with the spirit and opinions of that and the following reigns, that in no single sentence has it been ever carried out to its extreme results, in accordance with its provisions. It is just at this stage, and in this state of things, that the Committee of Convocation steps in, and asks that this Act should be put in force, repealing, however, the six months' imprisonment, more or less.

But what is this *brutum fulmen* to be called into being for? Not primarily to reform the offender,—not to promote peace in the parish,—not to preserve the people from running into Dissent or something even far worse; but avowedly in order not to *surrender* any portion of the Prayer-book. "The practical result of such a state of the law," says the report, "would be that an evil liver might be excommunicated so as to satisfy the exception of the rubric." And so we learn that, provided the rubric is satisfied, everything will go on smoothly, and the world roll back in civilization two hundred years, notwithstanding steam, notwithstanding telegraphs, religious liberty, a free press, and abundant education. But it may be entertaining, even instructive, to take the proposal as it stands, and realize in imagination what England would soon become with parsons firing, through the Ecclesiastical Courts, these spiritual pop-guns against drunkards, blasphemers, and adulterers, both rich and poor, in their parishes. First of all, the *major* excommunication being hurled against one such offender, the *minor* excommunication would by law hold good, *ipso facto*, against all the parishioners who keep company with him; and these latter being consequently disqualified for receiving the sacrament, it would be the duty of the clergyman to repel such of them as might approach the Lord's table or send for him to administer either Sacrament to them at their homes. It will require no peculiar effort of the imagination to conceive the uproar and confusion which would attend such a state of things in a parish, especially if the incumbent have half a dozen such renegades on his hands, every one of whom, of course, should be excommunicated. In the present state of the law, when the corpse of Tom Noddy, the farmer, who has lived notoriously in sin more than twenty years up to his death, is brought to be buried, the clergyman either manages to read the service, or, if he does not, makes up his mind for an action at law from the offended friends; but Tom himself cannot bite. But should the recommendation of the Committee of Convocation become law, and Tom, alive and vigorous, be excommunicated by the parson, he will be sure to make his wrath felt. Not having been very devout, or given to attendance at Church before, he will be less given in the future, and will soon appear a full-fledged Baptist, or perhaps a Methodist, taking a train of followers with him; or he will join the ranks of the Mormons; or possibly he may choose to belong to that sect, supposed to be rather on the increase in these days, that of professed Infidels.

In a like manner would the difficulties, excitement, and ill-feeling, which now occasionally arise from the Burial Service, be transferred from the drunkard or blasphemer dead to the same individual alive with no little damage to the Church.

Imagination can put no limits to the uproar, confusion, distrust, and ill-will which would flow from this godly Church discipline, in the development of which we may feel sure that truth would present results far more marvellous than any fiction. In a word, suppose (unless, indeed, this discipline turn out a dead letter, like the Ecclesiastical Titles Act) that there are in each parish of the 20,000 in the United Kingdom six prime offenders with the *major* ecclesiastical dunce's cap duly put on, and with them their attendant fry of *minor* excommunicants, which, for each of the former, could scarcely be less than half a dozen, we shall have nearly three quarters of a million members of the Church of England placed in an attitude of hostility to the Church, should ever such an unwise measure as that of a restored excommunication be adopted by the Parliament of England. They might be the worst members, and the clergy might prefer to lose them, and reduce the Church to that of a minority; but the ranks of Dissent and Infidelity could not fail to be largely recruited, and the parish churches by degrees to present an array of empty benches.

But independently of all these considerations, the scheme, as a discipline, is radically false in principle. It may hold good in small societies, where communion is valued by their members; or in nations where the civil law compassionately interposes to give effect to the ecclesiastical censure. But among a free people, rent into sects and denominations by diversities of religious opinion, it must ever be impotent—more impotent than bows and arrows could be in modern warfare. Besides, in a religious sense, there are but few sins or offences which it can reach—scarcely any besides the three which have been mentioned, and such as the civil law already takes cognizance of. Selfishness, rapacity, cruelty, deceit, malice, and a host of other vices, which are equally hostile to a religious state of mind, cannot be approached by it. It is an antiquated and rude instrument, suited well enough to an ignorant age when men were content to subject their judgments and their lives to ecclesiastical dictation, but no more to be recalled into being now than the roads of Dick Turpin's times and the vehicles that rolled thereon. The salutary exercise of public opinion is the only engine fitted for a free age and country. More has been done by that single agency to elevate the moral tone of England than ever did or could proceed from ecclesiastical censures. The one thing which astounds us is how could such a restoration of excommunication be gravely and

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seriously propounded, and for so diminutive a purpose. Can it be an instance illustrating the shifts to which even excellent and good men will have recourse in order to resist parting with the smallest portion of an existing thing or system, raising a mountain in order to remove a mole-hill, straining out a gnat while they swallow a camel?

AUGMENTATION OF BENEFICES.

ON Tuesday the Lord Chancellor laid on the table of the House of Lords returns of what has been done under the Augmentation of Benefices Act. Since the 1st of November last, when the act came into operation, thirty-seven livings have been sold. There are under negotiation, many of which would be soon sold, fifty-three more, and inquiries have been made in respect to eighty-five other livings. The purchase-money of the thirty-seven livings finally sold was £65,300, of which £37,850 has been paid into the Bank of England, and the remaining £27,450 is represented by amounts to be secured by rent-charges, by lands, and sums of money which have still to be paid. The total amount paid to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners is £16,800. As examples of the prices which he had succeeded in obtaining, his lordship mentioned that one living, the net income of which was £261, fetched £5,000. Another, the net income of which was £197, and the incumbent of which was very old, fetched £3,500. Another, where the net income was £214, and the incumbent aged fifty-eight, fetched £3,000. Among the smaller livings, one of £16. 12s. 3d., and the incumbent of which was seventy-two, fetched £550.

THE bill which has been brought into the House of Commons by Mr. Dodson, Mr. Grant Duff, and Mr. Goschen, after citing the University Reform Act of 17 & 18 Vict., proceeds to propose the following enactments:—"1st. From and after the first day of Michaelmas term, 1864, no person shall be required, upon taking or to enable him to take the degree of master in arts or any other academical degree not named in the hereinbefore recited 44th section of the said act, to subscribe any formulary of faith, or to make or subscribe any declaration, or to take any oath concerning his religious faith or profession, any law or statute to the contrary notwithstanding: provided always, that such degree shall not as such constitute any qualification for the holding of any office which has been heretofore always held by a member of the united Church of England and Ireland, and for which such degree has heretofore constituted one of the qualifications, until the person obtaining the same shall have subscribed a declaration that he is a *bonâ fide* member of the united Church of England and Ireland, in the form contained in the schedule to this Act annexed. 2. No person taking or having taken the degree of bachelor in arts, law, medicine, or music, shall, from and after the 1st day of Michaelmas term, 1864, as a qualification for any office heretofore always held by a member of the united Church of England and Ireland, and for which such degree has heretofore constituted one of the qualifications, be required, under the hereinbefore recited 44th section of the said recited Act, to subscribe any formulary of faith, or to make or subscribe any declaration or take any oath concerning his religious faith or profession, but shall instead, as a qualification for any such office, subscribe the declaration contained in the said schedule to this Act annexed." The following is the schedule referred to:—"I do declare that I am a *bonâ fide* member of the united Church of England and Ireland as it is now by law established."

THE Bishop of Exeter has applied to the Government to allow the consecration of a suffragan bishop for his diocese, as the Government has declined to entertain the question of a subdivision of the see by the erection of a bishopric for Cornwall. The bishop has recommended for the appointment the Rev. Frederick Charles Cook, M.A., Preacher of Lincoln's-inn, who has just been nominated by the Crown to the canonry in Exeter Cathedral, which became vacant by the preferment of the Rev. Edward Harold Browne, B.D., to the bishopric of Ely. The Prime Minister having consulted with the Lord Chancellor on the subject, has declined to accede to the proposal, on the ground that no suffragan bishop could be appointed in England without an Act of Parliament.

THE Bishop of Norwich has abandoned the proceedings which he commenced against the Rev. G. Drury, Rector of Claydon, Suffolk, for his alleged practices. The papers had stated that the suit was abandoned by the bishop "in consequence of the confused state of the law." Messrs. Brooks and Dubois, his lordship's proctors, write to deny that this is the case, and state that the defendant has given an affirmative issue to each of the charges alleged against him, and, in consideration of the further prosecution of the suit being waived, has engaged to discontinue the processions, ceremonies, and observances complained of, to submit the decoration of his church to the bishop's judgment, and to pay costs.

BROTHER IGNATIUS and the other monks of the English order of St. Benedict have left the village of Claydon and gone on to Norwich, where they have converted a house occupied by Mr. Elisha De Hague, ancient town clerk of Norwich, into a monastery. Brother Ignatius bids fair to plunge the old East Anglian capital into a ferment, if he does nothing else; but he seems to have larger pecuniary means at his command than when he was at Claydon.—*Norfolk News*.

THE repairs of Lincoln Cathedral are being proceeded with. Nearly the whole of the south side has now been restored, and the noble west front, with the niches containing eleven figures of early English kings over the entrance, will be reinstated.

THE Archbishop of York intends (D.V.) to hold his primary visitation in the latter half of August next, and to hold a confirmation for the North Riding, beginning in the last week of October.

THE Duke of Cleveland has presented £500 towards the completion of the restoration of St. Cuthbert's Church, Darlington. This is the second subscription received from the Raby family, the late Duke having given a donation of £1,000 some twelve or eighteen months ago. His Grace is the patron of the living.

THE Lady Chapel of the cathedral, used as a church for the parish of Holy Trinity, Ely, is to be re-seated, under direction of Mr. Scott, who has volunteered his services as architect.

A WEALTHY lay member of the Scottish Episcopal Church has offered to endow the church in which he worships with a tenth of the income of his estate there, if other members of the congregation will contribute a like proportion of their income.—*The Scotsman*.

MR. SAMUEL MORLEY, a wealthy Nonconformist, proposes to give one-third of the cost of twelve Dissenting places of worship, each to accommodate 500 persons, and to be at the expense of erecting six iron rooms in destitute localities, so as to prepare the way for permanent buildings.

SAINTS AND THEIR LEGENDS.—We are again compelled to postpone our article on this subject till next week.

SCIENCE.

HARWICH HARBOUR.—We are very glad to find a bill has been brought before Parliament to give powers to the Corporation of Harwich to embank certain "waste lands" between that town and Ray Island, and for the construction of a pier and a navigable cut or channel, by means of which the waters of the Ramsey river, and the drainage-water of the low lands adjacent, will be turned to serviceable account. The preamble of the Act also provides that, as these works will benefit the Great Eastern Railway Company, "it is expedient that they should have power to assist in the proposed undertaking by contributing thereto." Harwich will be undoubtedly a most useful port to the Great Eastern, and it is but fair, therefore, that that company should be made, as far as possible, to benefit the town. Indeed, hampered and fettered as Harwich is by Crown-lands and Government interests, it is highly important for its progress, development, and welfare, that some such powerful and counteracting influence as the railway company should ally itself with the local efforts for improvement. The proposed line of embankment will form the base of a nearly equilateral triangle, the other two sides of which are formed by the Harwich and Dovercourt shores, the whole of the area to be inclosed being at present a plain of unwholesome mud-banks and "slobs," of the foulest description. It is here that the foetid drainage from Dovercourt is poured out, directly in front of the Dovercourt railway-station; and where the new cut for the Ramsey will begin, are placed the even more unhealthy cement-works to which we drew attention in our watering-place articles last year. It is gratifying, too, to observe that provision is also made in the present bill for doing away with the former of these nuisances. The other, and most dangerous, we fear will remain for many a year, as in so small a place as Harwich private interests have an undue and disproportionately overbearing influence, and profitable manufacturing works are not likely to be relinquished without a struggle by their proprietors. In an engineering point, the proposed works will have very important effects. Not only will the scour by the river be greater in consequence of the inclosure, but the back-water afforded by the Ramsey will be brought to bear directly against the quays, and will materially aid in keeping free any accumulations of mud or silt at the landing-piers of the Rotterdam steamers and other vessels coming to the port. The greatest benefit to the town, however, will be, we apprehend, in giving enlarged space for building purposes. Bounded on three sides by the river and the sea, the only other direction for extension of dimensions is barred entirely by the Forts and the Crown lands, upon which bricks and mortar may not be laid by civilian hands. The prudent and profitable manner in which the authorities have managed their "Harbour Improvement Act of 1851" is a good and practical reason for their being intrusted with the additional powers now asked for, which will vastly benefit the town, and if we understand the pecuniary arrangements rightly, without increasing the taxation of its inhabitants.

ETHNOLOGY OF AUSTRALIA.—In a paper read at the Ethnological Society, Mr. Oldfield expressed his opinion that the New Hollanders are mainly of Malay descent, the physiognomy in both being, to his view, essentially the same, and their language cognate. As even at the present time the Malay proas sometimes visit the northern shores of Australia in quest of the trepang, there seems good foundation for the supposition that those people colonized the parts bordering on Torres Straits, and thence spreading southward, in process of time have peopled the whole continent. But although the Alfouira may be considered principally of Malay origin, it seems probable that there has been a mixture of negro blood, for the New Hollander possesses some of the characters of both families. He thinks it probable, in the first instance, different hordes of the Malay family (principally from New Guinea, where the Malay and negro races seem to have blended) settled on the northern shores of New Holland, it being necessary to suppose that these bands of colonists were of many distinct tribes, and that the parts thus peopled were remote from each other; otherwise it would be impossible to account for the great differences in customs and languages observable among the various Australian tribes. These hordes in their subsequent migrations seized on the facilities offered for subsistence by the physical conditions of the country, following, to some extent, the lines marking the distribution of plants. Taking peculiar customs as evincing community of origin, he considers that these migrations have seldom taken the direct southward course, and hence in many instances these bands of emigrants must have crossed the lines of migration of other hordes, leaving their traces at the point of transit. This supposition would certainly account for the diversities in customs of contiguous tribes as well as

for the similarity of usages among very distant ones. Thus for example the practice of tattooing the chest extends from the mouth of the Murchison south-east towards the great Australian Bight. The custom of tattooing the back prevails, as far as is yet known, from the country north of Moreton Bay towards the interior in a south-westerly direction. The practice of perforating the septum of the nostrils seems prevalent over the whole continent, furnishing, he thinks, a proof of the community of descent of all the Australian tribes; but as this custom prevails amongst most savages, too much stress must not be laid on its presence amongst the New Hollanders.

SPECTRUM OF LIGHTNING.—Mr. Grandean records the following examination of lightning by the spectroscope:—He arranged the experiment so that the lightning illuminated the upper half of the slit of the collimator, whilst the tube of nitrogen sent its light obliquely into the part of the slit covered by the total reflexion prism. A small quantity of the vapour of water remained in the nitrogen-tube at the time it was prepared sufficient to produce very neatly the characteristic rays of hydrogen superposed on the nitrogen rays. Mr. Grandean was able, at intervals of five minutes during an hour, to observe the spectrum of the lightning, the general appearance of which recalled at first sight that of the electric spark; but on closer observation Mr. Grandean soon noticed in the spectrum of almost every flash the coincidence of a certain number of the rays of this spectrum with those of the spectra of nitrogen and hydrogen. Mr. Grandean remarks that this result is not surprising, since chemists admit the production of ammonia and nitric acid under the influence of electrical discharges. Besides the rays of nitrogen and hydrogen, Mr. Grandean proves that the lightning-spectrum contains the yellow ray of sodium. This observation is, we think, the first application of spectrum-analysis to the study of the electric discharge from the clouds.

PRESERVATION OF MEAT.—Dr. Morgan's process for preserving meat by the injection of the arteries and veins with brine has been experimentally performed at the Government Victualling Department at Deptford, by order of the Admiralty. The brine-tub is elevated some twenty feet, and the brine conveyed through elastic tubing to a metal pipe inserted in the chest of the dead animal. The pressure thus obtained is sufficient to force the brine through the arteries and veins into the very capillaries. This process is twice performed. On the first occasion, an exit is given to the brine through an incision; and in this way the vessels are completely washed out and cleared of their blood. After this the brine is flavoured with catsup, cloves, pepper, &c., and the entire carcass perfectly injected with the preservative fluid. Both operations do not occupy more than ten minutes. It remains, however, for actual experiment to prove the preservative qualities of the process under varied conditions of climate.

HYDRAULIC LIFTS.—The application of hydraulic power in its various modifications to the saving of manual labour in large hotels and other establishments, has created a complete revolution in the building of modern edifices of that description; and without doubt this appliance will be more and more extensively employed, as its utility is more generally appreciated. In large hotels it is already deemed almost indispensable. Five such lifts have been constructed in the Brighton Hotel by Messrs. Easton & Amos. The largest one of these is employed in raising visitors and luggage from the ground-floor to any of the upper stories up to the height of 77 feet. It consists of an elegantly constructed inclosed room, capable of raising eight persons at a time, whilst the adaptability of the apparatus was such that it could be used with equal facility for the ascent or descent of a single person. The other four lifts are to be applied to the various purposes of the hotel.

CHEMISTS' DIPLOMAS.—The members of the Pharmaceutical Society have made a requisition to the Council to hold a general meeting to consider the expediency of an immediate application to Parliament for an amended Pharmacy Act, by which, following the precedent of the "Apothecaries Act," the legitimate interests of those already in business should be protected, and proper provision made for rendering the examinations of future chemists by their Board a compulsory instead of an optional proceeding.

THE ARCHEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE AND THE PRINCE OF WALES.—We announced a week or two ago that the Prince of Wales had presented to the library of the Archaeological Institute a copy of the papyrus which was discovered near Thebes, in presence of his Royal Highness during his Eastern tour. His Royal Highness has also evinced his interest in archaeological pursuits by expressing his intention of becoming Patron of the Institute, in the room of the late Prince Consort.

THE BARTLOW HILLS.—We are glad to find the remonstrances of the Archaeological Institute and the Antiquaries' Society have produced results, the Great Eastern Railway Company having acceded to their desire by shifting their new line so as to preserve from the great injury menaced the famous Roman tumuli at Bartlow. The greatest credit is due to the Institute as the prime mover in the preservation of these interesting remains.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY NIGHT.—Mr. Whipple, of Boston, has produced effective photographs of the fountain on Boston Common, illuminated by the electric light. The spray of the fountain, the leaves of the trees, and the persons under them are distinctly rendered.

PETROLEUM.—In 1861 the value of the imports into Europe of this earth-oil were £100,000. In 1862 the value was over a million of pounds; and last year the value of imports from America reached £3,000,000.

PRACTICAL INSTRUCTION IN SPECTRUM ANALYSIS.—An excellent work, under this title, by M. Louis Grandean, has been published by Mallet Bacheliers.

CHINESE HORTICULTURE.—It is proposed in Paris to translate the Chinese works on gardening, for the benefit of French horticulturists.

PACIFIC COD-FISH.—A fishing brig recently brought to California a cargo of cod-fish, taken on the Russian Asiatic coast, North Pacific Ocean. The fish are said to be of the same species as those of Newfoundland. It is expected that a profitable trade will be established, as the new fishing district is very extensive.

HUMBOLDT'S "COSMOS."—The fifth and concluding volume of Humboldt's "Cosmos" has appeared. It is in two divisions, and contains three more chapters by the master's own hand.

FINE ARTS.

MUSIC.

MR. MACFARREN'S NEW OPERA, "SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER."

OPERA poets are a ruthless class—no literary work, however hallowed by poetic or dramatic associations, is safe from abuse and distortion at their hands. It has often been urged as politic to take a piece which has succeeded in its dramatic form to serve as the groundwork for the libretto of an opera, under the notion that a portion at least of its theatrical success must follow it in its musical adaptation. But this argument is extremely weak and unsound. A piece for dramatic representation succeeds from one or more of three causes—from the ingenuity and artifice of its plot, the development of character, or the brilliancy and wit of the dialogue. Now, as to the first of these qualities: an involved plot, from which frequently arises so much of the pleasure of mere theatrical representation, is unsuited to the purposes of a stage musical work, in which the action should be so clear and simple as to be almost intelligible in mere pantomime. The development of character in an opera is the province of the music rather than of the words, which can never do more, in such a work, than furnish the composer with a few slight suggestive indications, to be filled up and amplified by his genius. In those operas which contain most dramatic characterisation, as in the works of Weber and Meyerbeer especially, the libretto will be found to be bald and cold in comparison with the vivid colouring and intense passion of the music. There is little in the mere words to develop a Bertram, a Marcel, or a Caspar; but the music given to those characters is as distinct and individual as any verbal treatment by a great dramatic poet could have been. Then again, as to polished and witty dialogue—how is it possible to preserve the continuity of the original drama when the larger proportion must be omitted to make room for the interpolated songs and concerted pieces required for musical purposes? It is quite true that the classical drama has frequently been laid under contribution for operatic purposes. In the early conventional period of opera, when the subjects were chiefly drawn from heathen mythology or classic legend, a few leading incidents which were certain to be familiar to the educated few who formed the audiences of those times, sufficed to serve as pretexts for the introduction of the fragmentary songs and choruses which then constituted an opera. But with the subsequent growth of the actor's art, and the more intimate fusion of dramatic and musical expression, there came a tendency to appropriate previously acted dramas to musical purposes for which they were never originally intended. Even Shakspeare has been laid under contribution, chiefly by Italian composers—"Hamlet," "Macbeth," "Romeo and Juliet," and "Othello," are among the plays which have been served up in operatic guise. Mendelssohn's "Midsummer Night's Dream" music, it will be remembered, was incidental to the play itself—he was too conscientious to lend his genius to any garbled adaptation of a great work. His contemplated opera, on the subject of the "Tempest," was delayed and unfulfilled, among other causes, from the difficulty in this respect; but even had he laid himself open to animadversion on this account, he would doubtless have been able to plead, in extenuation, the production of a work analogous in genius to the subject which had suggested it—a defence which cannot be set up on behalf of any of the Shakspeare operas. The wretched travesties of some of our great poet's works which were applied to musical purposes in the time of Purcell, can only be partially excused by the comparatively small general estimation in which Shakspeare was then held.

In the adaptation of comedy to the purposes of opera, precedents may be found in the "Barber of Seville" and "Figaro," taken from "Beaumarchais;" and "Matrimonio Segreto," founded on the "Clandestine Marriage." These instances have been particularly cited by our contemporaries in justification of the process just applied, for the first time, to Goldsmith's comedy. This argument, however, is singularly deficient in aptness and analogy. The works referred to are all recitative operas—that is, having no spoken dialogue; those short phrases which serve to connect together the various musical pieces being sung to the old Italian "recitativo parlante," in which the accompanying gesticulation is usually much more intelligible than the words. There remains, therefore, merely the slight framework of plot and incident—very slight in the cases referred to—just sufficient to give a dramatic purpose to the music. The sparkling and epigrammatic dialogue, which forms the chief merit of these old comedies, entirely disappears—the work changes its form into one wholly musical, in which the literary element has no place; and the genius displayed by the composer is the only criterion of success. On the other hand, if we seek for the perfection of the dialogue opera—that is, the mixture of spoken comedy with music, we find it in the French *opéra comique*—that charming form

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of musical comedy which seems to have reached its climax in the joint productions of Scribe and Auber. These works, however, were of homogeneous growth—the brilliant, polished, epigrammatic dialogue, and ingenious plots of the dramatist being originally contrived for musical purposes; and the distinct elocution and capital acting of French singers, in parts not previously identified with greater histrionic artists, leave no room for those disparaging comparisons which are generally inevitable when our stage vocalists have to sustain characters in adaptations.

Holding these canons of art, what shall be said when a classical comedy such as "She Stoops to Conquer," in which the writing is at least as important as the plot, is turned into a dialogue opera,—that is, a mixture of music and talk,—scarcely any of the original dialogue retained; but, instead thereof, a paraphrastic jumble, in which the epigrammatic point of the author is mostly replaced by the commonplace of the adapter? This is what Mr. Fitzball has done,—he has taken Goldsmith's comedy, jammed it up into three acts, cut out the character of Mrs. Hardcastle, stuck in some jingling rhymes for the musician to work upon, altered, paraphrased, and summarised the connecting dialogue, with a boldness that, if it have no other merit, at least shows unlimited self-confidence. Occasionally a few lines are left intact, but more frequently whole speeches are altered even when no advantage of compression is gained. Thus Goldsmith makes Miss Neville say of young Marlow,—"As I live, the most intimate friend of Mr. Hastings, my admirer;" but Fitzball improves it thus:—"Dear cousin, Mr. Marlow is the intimate friend of my lover, Mr. Hastings," &c. Again, when Marlow is directed on his way to "where four roads meet," according to Goldsmith, Tony Lumpkin says:—"Ay, but you must be sure to take only one of them;" but the adapter, who seems deeply impressed with a mission for alteration, reduces the point to, "Yes, but you only take one of them." The adaptation having to be made, and admitting the consequent necessity for compression and abridgement, we yet fail to discover in these and many similar instances any result beyond the self-assertion of Fitzball *versus* Goldsmith. In short, the book is a clumsy jumble, and clever as is some of Mr. Macfarren's music, his work does not reconcile us to the literary impropriety involved in the text on which he has wrought. Mr. Fitzball has earned a certain kind of reputation as a melodramatic author of the blood and blue-fire school, which used to prevail at the theatres on the south side of the river; and, probably, in his absorption in that peculiar branch of dramatic literature, he may not be fully aware that Goldsmith now ranks among the classics of the English language—being no longer considered as the "inspired idiot" that he was held to be in the last century. It might then be permitted to a Dr. Johnson to snub "poor Goldy" in person; but we must protest against similar liberties being taken with his works by a Fitzball.

Mr. Macfarren's music, although superior to most of the works recently produced at the Royal English Opera, will scarcely raise the reputation of the composer of "Charles II.," "Robin Hood," and "Jessy Lea." As in those works, so in the present, there is an evident effort to impress an English character on the music; but the robust phrases by which this is attempted are in such close association with passages of French brilliancy and Italian suavity, that the general effect is composite rather than national and individual. The opera opens with a dashing overture, cleverly and brilliantly instrumented; commencing with a rugged phrase, evidently intended to indicate the English character of the work, and leading to an allegro, the principal theme of which is a polka-like melody, afterwards the subject of one of the most popular songs in the opera. The introductory duet for the two ladies, "Oh Summer Morning," is graceful and flowing, and well written for the voices. Miss Hardcastle's song, "What is this love?" is elegant in style, but wants that specialty of melody which is requisite for popularity. Tony Lumpkin's song, "The cunning old Fox" (interpolated in lieu of Goldsmith's song, "The Three Pigeons"), is deficient in point or humour or any kind of interest. Passing several other pieces, all more or less well written, but wanting in that vitality which alone confers permanent value, we come to the trio, in which Hardcastle persists in telling his story of the great Duke of Marlborough in spite of the remonstrances of Marlow and Hastings—a movement which is sustained with considerable spirit and stage effect. The duet for Miss Neville and Hastings, "Oh, it is sweet," is elegant in character, and the cadenza for the two voices produces the usual effect of such passages. Better still is the duet for Marlow and Miss Hardcastle, where the bashful lover stammers out his confused sentences. This is cleverly constructed and shows considerable skill in seizing a dramatic situation not easy of musical illustration. The second act opens with a ballad for Miss Neville with flute obligato, the chief effect of which is due to the somewhat *ad captandum* concerted passages for voice and instrument. The trio in which the loss of the jewels is announced contains some good phrases and dramatic passages, but is somewhat vague in construction. The most effective piece in this act, and indeed in the whole opera, is Miss Hardcastle's song, "Did your honour call?" in which she forestalls her assumed character of barmaid. The subject of this song, previously heard in the overture, is of a light and dance-like character, and embellished as it is with brilliant passages of vocal display, sustained by some effective instrumentation; charmingly sung, moreover, by Miss Louisa Pyne, it is unquestionably the most successful thing in the opera, and will no doubt be the most in demand at the music-shops. After a duet of no very marked character we come to the finale—the best concerted piece in the opera,

full of bustle and animation—in which Hardcastle, exasperated at his guests using his mansion as an inn, threatens their expulsion. In the earlier portion of this finale is a charming part-song, "The Cuckoo sings," which may compare with some of the best examples of the German school. This movement, which is admirably sung by the chorus (unaccompanied of course), is very melodious, gracefully harmonised, and thoroughly vocal in character. The reiterated imitation of the cuckoo by the female voices, carried through the closing phrase of the other voices, is well conceived. The third act is scarcely equal, in musical interest, to the previous acts. Among the principal movements are a comic trio, involving the reading of the letter; a pretty cavatina for Hastings; an effective quintette; and a finale including some reminiscences of previous themes; and the usual climax of bravura display for the principal soprano. The opera has been exceedingly well put on the stage, the scenery and dresses are good, and the orchestra and chorus excellent. Of the singers, Miss Pyne (as Miss Hardcastle), of course merits chief mention for her finished singing and unaffected acting, which would be still better with a little more distinct enunciation of the words. She was well seconded by Miss Hiles (as Miss Neville). Mr. Harrison, and Mr. Perren (as Marlow and Hastings) sang and acted their best as the pair of friendly lovers. Mr. Weiss was impressive, not to say ponderous, as the old English squire; and Mr. Corri tried hard to be humorous as Tony Lumpkin; but it was impossible to avoid, throughout the opera, regretful reminiscences of the play in its original acting shape. The audience of the first night, however, seemed to be troubled with no such recollections—they applauded the acting, encored nearly all the music, called on the composer and singers, threw bouquets; and, in short, furnished all the demonstrations of success. Let us hope, therefore, that the opera, "She Stoops to Conquer," will prove more fortunate for the management of the Royal English Opera than some of the productions which have preceded it.

The last Monday Popular Concert was rendered peculiarly interesting by the production of an instrumental work by Mozart,—a "divertimento" for stringed quartet, and two horns; consisting, like Beethoven's septet, of more than the usual complement of movements. The work is full of the tender grace and melodious beauty of Mozart's style; and was so highly appreciated that it is to be repeated at the next concert.

A new opera, "Mirielle," by Gounod, is about to be produced at the Paris Theatre Lyrique. It is said that Mr. Gye has secured it for his ensuing season here.

Berlioz's last opera, "Les Troyens," is being translated for performance at the Weimar Opera House. The work, which had small success in the composer's own country, may possibly meet with more acceptance in an atmosphere which has always been favourable to the "music of the future," to which school Berlioz's style undoubtedly tends, notwithstanding his vehement protestations to the contrary.

THE PAST YEAR'S ADDITIONS TO THE BRITISH GALLERY.

WHEN we noticed a few weeks since the foreign pictures in the Gallery at Trafalgar-square, we commented on the inconvenience of the separation of our national collection into two portions, and the location of the British pictures at South Kensington, but we were scarcely prepared for the difference of attention the two portions seem to have received and the paucity of the additions to the more remote branch, which a careful inspection has revealed. While at Trafalgar-square no less than thirteen pictures have been acquired by purchase—leaving out of consideration the munificent gifts of the Queen, twenty-two in number,—seven at most are all that have been added to the British pictures at South Kensington, and some of this number belong more properly to 1862 than 1863.

The list of new British pictures includes No. 687, a full-length portrait of Captain Orme standing by his horse, painted by Reynolds in 1777; No. 683, an exquisite portrait of Mrs. Siddons, by Gainsborough, painted in 1784; a full-length portrait of a gentleman (Dr. Schomberg) in a court suit of claret-coloured velvet, by the same painter, and formerly placed in the Gallery at Trafalgar-square by mistake; No. 688, the life-size Alderney bull exhibited at the last International Exhibition, painted by James Ward in 1822, in emulation of Paul Potter's celebrated picture at the Hague; No. 689, a very good landscape by old Crome of Norwich, being an extensive view of the moorland tract of Mousehold Heath; No. 725, a great picture, by Wright of Derby, of life-size figures in half-length, constituting a family party grouped round a table, at which an aged philosopher is experimenting with the air-pump on a bird, to the horror of the younger members of the family. No. 730, a small imaginative and beautifully coloured picture by Thomas Uwins, of the scene from Spenser's "Faerie Queen," of Sir Guyon releasing Verdant from the enchantment of Acrasia. Of Uwins, Reynolds, Gainsborough, and Ward, there were previously several excellent examples—though the "Siddons" is equal to anything Gainsborough ever painted, and would be a worthy acquisition, whatever previous illustrations of the Suffolk artist the gallery might possess. The pictures by old Crome and by Wright are the only examples of the respective artists, and are therefore important additions. Old Crome's pictures, generally made up of the fewest materials, are always wonderfully soft and harmonious in colouring, and this especially so. In Wright's picture of the air-pump there are, on

the other hand, in many instances hard shadows in the figures, even harder and more black than is incidental to the peculiarity of the light, which comes from a candle in the centre screened by a bowl of water with a sponge. The subject is painful and offensive, as putting a philosophical experiment in a cruel aspect, and one can only view the picture with the regret that so fine a painter should not have devoted his ability to a finer and nobler topic.

These constitute the whole of the additions; there are some other pictures we had hoped to see, as they have now been for some time the property of the nation; but they were not to be found. One of these was the well-known "Derby Day," by Frith, bequeathed in 1859 by Mr. Jacob Bell; another was the small copy of Rosa Bonheur's "Horse-Fair;" and a third, Landseer's "Maid and the Magpie," also part of the Bell collection. There may be a good account to be given of the five years that have elapsed, and there may be grounds for five more slipping away before the public see these items of their property in their proper places; but it would be well at least that the world should know the reasons, and be informed when these favourite pictures are likely to be hung. Frith's picture is still performing provincial wanderings, as we see by advertisements in local newspapers, and but recently was exhibited in the lecture-room of the Yeovil Mechanics' Institution. It will be next heard of at Cardiff. Possibly it is insured against fire, but can it be against damage and deterioration? It will devolve probably rather upon the executors of Mr. Bell than the authorities of the National Gallery to satisfy the national curiosity upon these topics.

Fresco Painting.—A paper, "On Fresco Painting as a suitable mode of mural decoration," read at the Society of Arts, by Mr. J. B. Atkinson, has afforded an opportunity for discussing the various merits of fresco, wax, tempera and water-glass painting for such purposes. A letter from MacIse was quoted in favour of the water-glass system, which, for our English climate, we should think, both for chemical and artistic reasons, would be the best for effect and endurance. In this process the plaster is wholly spread at once and the colours used with pure water only, their fixation being effected by syringing a thin solution of water-glass over the picture. The author of the paper, considering the importance of the subject, urged the Society to appoint a committee of inquiry in conjunction with the Society of Architects, the Royal Academy, and other competent bodies.

THE IRISH NATIONAL GALLERY, recently opened, consists of a picture-gallery on the upper floor, and a sculpture gallery beneath it, each about 200 feet long. Of the pictures in the former, 71 have been obtained by purchase; 31 on loan, from the trustees of the London Gallery; and 25 have been presented. An oil-colour portrait of Lady Morgan; and the Taylor collection of water-colour drawings, 103 in number, have been bequeathed. A collection of casts from the antique forms an important feature in this gallery. It has been obtained by private subscriptions and donations. The cost defrayed by parliamentary grants has been £21,000, to which £5,000 has been added by the Dargan Committee. A portrait of Mr. Dargan, by Mr. Catterson Smith, has been placed in it.

THE PRESERVATION OF PICTURES.—The two numbers of the *Art Journal* for the present year contain excellent articles, by Mr. Pyne, on the preservation of pictures painted in oil colours, principally in reference to varnishing and on preventing cracks. He urges the general propriety of varnishing pictures, but is not much in favour of covering with glass. It is not, he contends, a preserver of the beauty of the picture, although it may be of its material, from accidents, for newly-painted works suffer considerably for the want of free access of the air.

THE DANTE FESTIVAL.—M. Corsini, the Secretary of the Municipal Commission of Florence, has proposed the regular publication of a "Giornale del Centenario di Dante Alighieri," on the 10th and 20th of every month, until after the conclusion of the festival in the May of next year. Its pages will be devoted entirely to matters relating to the festival and the poet.

THE BRONZE GATES OF THE CATHEDRAL AT PISA.—Electrotype copies of the bronze gates of the Cathedral at Pisa are being made for the South Kensington Museum.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. William Hunt, one of the greatest ornaments of the Society of Painters in Water-colours. Mr. Hunt died on Friday week at his residence at Hampstead. The election of a member to fill the vacancy he has left in the Society will be held next June.

A STATUE OF THE EMPRESS EUGÉNIE is to be erected in the market-place of Puebla. Several proposals have been made as to the costume. The first plastic representation of the crinoline, however, seems to be the one most favourably accepted.

NEW PICTURE.—A very clever historical painting has been exhibited in Munich, "The Last Banquet of Wallenstein's Generals," by Julius Scholz, of Dresden. The subject is from the fourth act of Schiller's "Piccolomini." The rendering of the wine-glasses, the wine, and the dresses of the figures, are spoken of as marvellous in their illusion.

"**THE ART STUDENT**" is the title of a cheap new illustrated monthly, devoted to the fine and industrial arts, and as a guide to their principles and practice. The articles are short and pithy, and there is an abundance of various notes in the specimen number.

SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—Messrs. E. B. Jones, F. Walker, E. Lundgren, and G. P. Boyce, have been elected to the four vacancies in the list of associates. There were no less than thirty-three candidates.

MR. BOADLE has presented to the town of Liverpool the picture of "St. Cecilia playing on the Viol," by Domenichino.

EXETER HALL.—Mendelssohn's "Elijah" will be performed for the last time this season on Wednesday, 2nd of March, by the National Choral Society, under the direction of Mr. G. W. Martin, with a band and chorus of 700. Principal vocalists, Madame Rudersdorff, Miss Emma Heywood, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. Santley. Organist, Mr. John G. Boardman.

THE BRUSSELS JOURNALS announce the death of Count Rossi, the husband of Mlle. Sontag, the celebrated singer. He quitted the diplomatic service in 1850 to accompany his wife to America. Since his return he has lived in retirement at Brussels, occupying himself with the education of his children. He leaves two sons and two daughters.

STEPHEN FOSTER, the composer of "Willie, we have missed you," and numberless other popular ditties for black minstrel parties, has lately died.

MRS. WILKINS, widow of the late Serjeant Wilkins, is playing a successful engagement at Wallack's Theatre, New York.

THE NEW PARIS THEATRE, "Les Bouffes Parisiens," has been built in six weeks.

DE BERIOT, the violinist, has become blind, and is residing at Toulon.

M. MEYERBEER is about to produce his "Judith" at the Théâtre Lyrique. "L'Africaine" is promised for October next.

THE BEST TRAGIC ACTOR in Italy, Tommaso Salvini, has been giving a series of performances at the Paganini Theatre here (Genoa), and, for his benefit, played his most celebrated part, Otello, in an Italian version of our Shakespeare's "Othello."

MONEY AND COMMERCE.

THE STOCK EXCHANGE COMMITTEE AND SHARE RIGGING.

THE public are deeply interested in a subject which has caused loud complaint for some months past, but which received no check till the Committee of the Stock Exchange took action, and passed, a week or ten days ago, a special regulation respecting the necessity of an increased amount of capital and deposit before a settlement was permitted, or quotations allowed in the official lists. Indeed, the facilities which were afforded for the issue of a limited number of shares, and the means taken to manipulate them, have so long been a question of dissatisfaction among the share dealing public, that it is rather surprising some strong demonstration has not taken place before. The Committee of the Stock Exchange having at length interfered, it has brought the matter to a simple issue, and a high range in premiums, or activity in "rigging," is not now for the present to be again expected. The enforcement of its new law has already checked the success of several new undertakings, which presented prospects when they were first announced of the most roseate character. Scarcely had they been made public before the shares were quoted at a strong elevation, but no sooner was this measure agreed to—shadowing forth a stringent policy—than down went the values, and they have not since recovered. Although these undertakings have been remodelled, and the promoters are justified in continuing their labours to carry out their organization, the effect has been for the present discouraging, and it seems likely that the partial success of future schemes will be compromised. But this more with regard to their premium-bearing prospects than in relation to their active working when satisfactorily developed.

The Stock Exchange Committee have done perfectly right in passing this new rule; and as it will hereafter become part of the recognised regulations of the establishment, it will prevent much of the mischief hitherto made a ground of animadversion. The alteration has not been effected a moment too soon; the only question is—should it have been allowed to apply retrospectively instead of prospectively? The general opinion seems to be that the committee were scarcely wise in thus arranging for the operation of the change. Had they decided upon adopting the arrangement, and carrying it out without delay, they would have passed the rule and fixed a date from which it should have taken operation, of course, excepting those projects already announced. They have, nevertheless, decided otherwise; and the principle now being adopted, it remains to be seen what its future effect will be upon the miscellaneous share market. Till some method of rearrangement shall be discovered by talented promoters, it is exceedingly probable it will restrict the formation of new undertakings; first, from the larger number of shares which will have to be created to represent the half paid-up capital; and secondly, the increased amount of deposit to represent the capital subscribed. The allotment, through these means, will be spread over a wider surface, and will scarcely allow any trafficking in shares, and in the next £3 and £5 calls will entail a larger amount of risk than the public will in the majority of cases choose to incur. This resolution will, therefore, during the time being at least, restrict much of the commotion, and success will not now so greatly depend upon the way in which a company is brought out, as it will upon its real and distinctive merits. So far, this must be admitted to be completely satisfactory, and it will be one of the first things which will assist in establishing a more healthy order of affairs, though it may for a time interfere with the current value of new shares and the profits of the general school of operators.

The most is that associated, and the mittees of chester sh investigate does not an of shares of petitive int this is the be one in w The Manch sibility, an nevertheless very fair ch so rapidly s to support advanced. Steam Ship value, and, Liverpool a Meanwhile then transp allotments were, the h so as to sup their ultim Through thi been proce quotation th prem., and ther assault which this ment, and who have lo mittees of t against the mitted in li that the sys is the syste themselves effected by there will b that which tage against course that quently the them in the of this chara and before t obtain them such a doub they invite should, if th nearly reate with regard would do th public mind port general quence of the pate in good same evil ha whilst the S this kind o measures for pressure from proceedings a organization and to get t the excitement improbable w but while th blame, the b The case itse immediate ac

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The most desperate case of rigging which has long been known, is that associated with the shares of a new steam company introduced, and which has reached such a serious pitch, that the Committees of the Stock Exchange of London, Liverpool, and Manchester should, for the credit of the respective establishments, investigate the case. Now, this business, it must be understood, does not arise from any arrangement with respect to the number of shares or to the amount paid, but simply occurs through competitive influence between rival promoters in Liverpool. At least this is the report circulated in London. In Liverpool, there may be one in which the same charge may be alleged against London. The Manchester operators may probably like to divide the responsibility, and take their fair share of the blame. Certain it nevertheless is, that the Company was ushered into existence with very fair chances of success; but the shares not being subscribed so rapidly as was anticipated, the Liverpool people were inclined to support them by purchases. This they did, and the quotation advanced. Another antagonistic party—also identified with a Steam Shipping Company, endeavoured by sales to depress their value, and, having undertaken a course of transactions between Liverpool and London, to a great extent accomplished their object. Meanwhile subscriptions were received for the shares, and it then transpired, through one channel or other, that very few allotments would be sent out, and that in cases where they were, the holders must consent to retain them five or six months, so as to support the market and prevent the sellers from attaining their ultimate end—the depressing of the price to a discount. Through this state of things, a struggle between bulls and bears has been proceeding for the last three weeks or a month till the quotation through the efforts of the former has been carried to £7 prem., and the price from its strength seems to be safe against further assault from their opponents. The questionable manner in which this high value has been secured has naturally excited comment, and a number of individuals—of course among them those who have lost by adverse transactions—seek to appeal to the Committees of the Exchanges in London, Liverpool, and Manchester against the ratification of outstanding bargains. It may be admitted *in limine* that the conduct of the parties is reprehensible and that the system is deserving of the strongest condemnation. But it is the system that is to blame and not the individuals who avail themselves of it. Do away with the system, which can easily be effected by the concurrent action of the several Exchanges, and there will be no more outcry on the subject. Persons who sell that which they do not possess must always stand at a disadvantage against those who are either identified with or know the course that will be adopted by a particular company, and consequently they should avoid dealing with such contingencies staring them in the face. It is, no doubt, very annoying to make losses of this character, but if individuals will endeavour to secure shares, and before they have the opportunity of knowing whether they can obtain them, do not hesitate to sell, they must bear the brunt of such a doubtful proceeding. On the other hand, directors, when they invite subscriptions for 5,000, 10,000, or 15,000 shares, should, if they receive extensive applications, apportion them as nearly rateably as possible to prevent the frequency of complaints with regard to favouritism in such arrangements. If directors would do this it would have a very encouraging effect upon the public mind, and they would manifest a greater desire to support general undertakings than they do at present in consequence of the tricks they have been served when seeking to participate in good enterprises. In every mania, however, nearly the same evil has had to be encountered as that now experienced, and whilst the Stock Exchange literally lives, in a great degree, upon this kind of excitement, they will not seek to take active measures for its repression unless the movement springs through pressure from without. If any repetition of these disgraceful proceedings should be exhibited in the course of future company organization it will be requisite to appeal direct to the Committee, and to get them to abrogate all bargains. To such an extent has the excitement been carried on the present occasion that it is not improbable we may not yet hear the last of the present business, but while the bulls and the promoters are deserving of serious blame, the bears have not altogether exercised a wise discretion. The case itself will present a very strong precedent if necessary for immediate action on future occasions.

THE GOVERNMENT ANNUITIES BILL.

MR. GLADSTONE'S Annuities Bill has roused the hostility of the insurance offices, and rightly, for it is objectionable on two grounds:—First, because it professes to be what it is not; and next, because it proposes to enable Government to do what it should not. At present the Government can grant life assurances up to £100, provided the person making such assurance also purchases a deferred annuity. The new bill proposes to remove this clog from the action of the Government, and is therefore not an annuity bill, but an assurance bill. So much for the misnomer. Then, the clog removed, Government steps into an extended assurance business, competing, against all recognised principle, with the companies, and undertaking duties which it is not qualified to discharge. This expansion of operations involves several evils. Many insurance offices, acting on the recommendation of the Committee on Assurance Associations, 1853, have been at great expense in developing their business so as to meet the ability of the industrial classes to insure; and as yet, by reason of the expense inseparable

from opening up new business, this effort has been without profit to them. Is it fair that Government, through the medium of the Post-office savings-banks, should outbid them for popular support? Again, Government cannot exercise that scrutiny by which companies are protected against fraud; and lastly, if they do enough to protect themselves, the assurers' personal representatives may find that they have no power to recover the sum insured. We therefore think that Mr. Gladstone has committed a blunder in bringing forward this bill. He has a facility for filling new rôles, but not always such judgment as we could desire in choosing them. If he opens an insurance office, where will he stop?

THE FRENCH TREATY.

THE French have no reason to complain of their bargain with us. The last returns published by the Director-General of Customs show that French foreign trade has increased by 816,000,000 f. within three years; and that this increase is represented by the augmentation of exports. The exports for the year 1863 alone exceeded the imports by 255,000,000 f. Even the manufacturers who at first warned the Emperor that the Treaty would have to be torn up by cannon-balls, must peruse the returns in an equable state of mind. An examination of the imports shows that on a total of 2,368,000,000 f. only 22 per cent. is of manufactured articles, the remainder being raw material of prime necessity to French manufactures; while upon a total of 2,622,500,000 f. exports, 76 per cent. is of manufactured articles. The stuffs and cloths of every description exported amount to 746,800,000 f., exclusive of 37,000,000 f. of thread. Wine figures for 241,000,000 f., and brandy for 68,000,000 f. The machinery and wrought metal exported amount to 68,400,000 f., to which must be added 3,500,000 f. for scientific instruments. Dressed skins are set down for 126,000,000 f.; linendrapery, 85,500,000 f.; toys and haberdashery, 146,500,000 f.; gold and silver articles, 26,000,000 f.

THE GREAT EASTERN.

THE big ship, doomed to vicissitudes, was put up to auction on Wednesday last in the cotton sales room, Exchange-buildings, Liverpool, without reserve. A clear title was guaranteed; and if the purchaser made any objection which the vendor could not remove, he was at liberty to rescind the contract on return of the deposit of 10 per cent. No one seemed particularly anxious to purchase; and Mr. Yeates, secretary of the Great Eastern Steamship Company, led off with a bid of £20,000. Mr. M'Gee, shipowner, improved upon this by a poor thousand, which Mr. Yeates presently covered with another, and finally carried off the big ship for £25,000, beating Mr. M'Gee's second bid by £2,000. Practically, the *Great Eastern* thus comes into the possession of the company which had already purchased bonds of the Great Ship Company, for a sum of £80,000—ten thousand less than the mere cost of launching her.

THE Bank Directors made no alteration in the rate of discount on Thursday. The terms for first-class bills were 6½ to 7 per cent.

ABOUT £16,000 gold was sent into the Bank. Previously £134,000 had been dispatched thence. £55,000 was, during the week, withdrawn.

THE state of business in public securities is better. Consols have been supported at 91½. The great source of excitement has been in foreign stock. Mexican has advanced to 42, on the prospect of the new Bank. The loan will also give this security fresh prominence. Greek has rallied to 22½ to 23½ in speculative purchases; and Confederate Stock to 56 to 57, a report being spread that the French Emperor will immediately recognise the South.

RAILWAY, Credit and Finance, and other shares, have been sustained at the recent improvement.

MESSRS. J. H. SCHRÖDER & Co. have announced the payment of the half-yearly dividend due the 1st March on the Confederate 7 per cent. Cotton Loan. It is at the same time formally notified that the first half-yearly drawing for the redemption of an amount equal to 2½ per cent. of the "amount of the loan then unredeemed by cotton" will take place in London on the same day.

TEN years ago the six joint-stock banks then existing held only £22,000,000, while now their number has doubled (including the Consolidated, with which the private firms of Messrs. Heywood, Kennard, & Co., and Messrs. Hankey & Co. have amalgamated), and their deposits reach the enormous amount of nearly £71,800,000, and this without reckoning the Agra and United Service Bank, formerly devoted exclusively to Indian banking, but now doing a large and profitable London business.

THE accounts from New York state that the importations of foreign manufactures continue on a large scale, and that the efflux of gold to Europe must therefore be expected to go on without relaxation. The total value of the goods entered during January was £1,630,000, against £1,050,000 in the same month of last year, and £600,000 in January, 1862. These figures, moreover, represent the cost in specie, so that, taking the increased duty and adding the premium on gold, the expenditure on the part of the American public would be raised to a point beyond former precedent.

THE American firm that made the first Russian railroad, that between St. Petersburg and Moscow, 400 miles in length, and worked it for twelve years, have netted, it is said, 30,000,000 roubles by their undertaking.

REVIEWS OF BOOKS.

FOUR EXPERIMENTS IN CHURCH AND STATE.*

LORD ROBERT MONTAGUE is one of the members of Parliament who have of late years taken the most active interest in the discussion of Church questions. We have, however, always been accustomed to number him amongst the High Church party, and cannot therefore help feeling some surprise at finding that he is the advocate of a theory which that party would undoubtedly count rank heresy. Although he cannot be charged with indifference to religious belief—indeed, we gather from many portions of his book that he has strong religious opinions—his idea of a national church is thoroughly Erastian. It is not a body possessing the truth and empowered to teach it dogmatically. It is not based on doctrine, nor entitled to exact conformity to opinion. It is simply “an association for putting down evil.” It is not apart from or above the State, but is the State itself. There may, it is true, be sects and divisions in the Church; but that is immaterial, since all these parties have but the one intent of putting down evil. Being “national,” the rulers of the nation are properly the rulers of the Church. In such a body the clergy have no higher authority than the laity, from whom they are in no way set apart. The only heresy known in such a Church is the offence of withdrawing from it, and setting up a separate religious body or organization. Let any one think as he likes, so long as he continues in the fold of the National Church, for “godliness is above orthodoxy; the State seeks for proper conduct, and looks for good citizens, and leaves the fostering of dogma to the unending controversies and acrimonious bickerings of divines.” There is, we need hardly say, nothing new in this theory, nor does Lord R. Montague pretend that there is. It is only Dr. Arnold’s idea carried out somewhat further than Dr. Arnold would have been quite prepared to go. For, although the late master of Rugby was quite prepared to adopt the most elastic tests of church membership, and to comprehend within the institution all sects who hold in any form the essential doctrines of Christianity, he felt that the line must be drawn somewhere. Having regard to practice as well as theory, he was unable to conceive the existence of a body whose members had no basis of union, in community of opinions however small. Lord R. Montague, however, does not trouble himself to clothe his abstraction with any concrete forms. He does not condescend to tell us how he proposes that a heterogeneous collection of discordant sects should work together under one head. He appears disposed to retain articles of belief in his model Church; but he leaves us ignorant how far he would render their acceptance a condition of holding office, or filling the pulpits of the establishment. If they are to stand for nothing, we might have bishops of one religion ruling clergy of another; if they are to stand for anything, what real connection would remain between those who dissent and the Church of which they are still nominal members? The notion of a Christian commonwealth embodied in a Church identical with the State, is no doubt very attractive. It might be realised if men all thought alike, or nearly alike, upon theological subjects; or if they could be brought to regard differences on points of dogma as purely trivial. But ever since the Reformation men have refused to think alike; and just in proportion as they care for religion they care also for dogma. Rightly or wrongly, they will have it that the possession of saving truth is of more importance than national community in a colourless worship. In the first sentence of his book, Lord R. Montague says:—“The Church has a twofold aspect—religious and political. The former, as beyond our province, I put aside.” But then mankind will not “put aside” the religious aspect of Churches; and so long as they will not, speculations which do this possess exactly the same value as a treatise on the construction and working of steam-engines, which should “put aside” the effect of friction and atmospheric resistance.

The object of “The Four Experiments” is to show the superiority of the National Church, as Lord Robert Montague conceives it, to every relation between the Church and State in which the two are not identical. He takes the Church of England as an existing specimen of the true National Church; although it is difficult to reconcile this assumption with a subsequent statement, that after the Revolution of 1688 “the idea of a National Church was forgotten; the nation was split into factions, and the Church into opposing sects.” But if the Church be not national, then the State may override the Church, as in Russia; or the Church may override the State, as in Rome; or we may have “Americanism, or the way of the Sectaries,” when Church and State are unconnected, and strictly speaking there is no Church at all. He commences by an historical sketch of these systems or no-systems. His account of the Church of England is, as might be expected, the most elaborate; but even here he is curiously deficient in everything which, in the present day, we expect from any one who assumes the office of an historian. His knowledge is obviously entirely second-hand; for anything that appears, he has not thought it worth while to make himself acquainted with the original authorities; and, speaking generally, it may be said that he adopts the easy and convenient plan of accepting and using all authorities, good, bad, or indifferent, that favour his preconceived notions, and quietly ignoring everything that tells against him. We are not, indeed,

disposed to deny that in the Anglo-Saxon times there was a close approach to his ideal identity between Church and State. We quite admit that even after the Conquest, and down to the Reformation, the Parliament and people of England held out stoutly against the encroachments of Rome, and never entirely surrendered the independence of the National Church. It is true enough that the Reformation in this country was, in the first instance, mainly a political movement. But the political movement was only the crust which concealed the religious movement beneath. The early Puritans, no doubt, long clung to the idea of a National Church; and, instead of dissenting from it, strove to mould it in their own fashion. In the early part of the reign of Elizabeth, Papists and Protestants worshipped amicably together in our churches. But we cannot believe that “that happy and Christian practice might have continued until now had not the anathemas of Pius V. forced the Papists to separate from us, and fostered in the minds of Protestants the baneful prejudice that the Reformation began with doctrine and rested on opinion.” The moment men began to think on religious questions, it was inevitable that, sooner or later, they would break away from political bonds. Apart from mere theological divisions, they naturally fell under the influence of two distinctly opposite tendencies. Some minds sought in a “clergy Church” a new spring of that dogmatic teaching which they had previously derived from Rome. Others, in casting off Rome, cast off also the yearning for authority, and embraced with fervour the principles of Christian liberty and private judgment. Mistakes were no doubt made by the statesmen of the period; England need not have been split into sects quite as early as it was. But nothing could have prevented the ultimate separation of a Protestant people into Church and dissent. So long as any religious vitality was left amongst them, no comprehension, except that based on a Toleration Act, was permanently possible. Instead of blaming the clergy on the one hand, and the sectaries on the other, for the destruction of the National Church, as it existed under Henry VIII., Lord R. Montague would have done more wisely to recognize, in subsequent events, an all-sufficient proof that, if you once set men thinking on religion, no Church can exist apart from dogma, and no Church founded on dogma can embrace the whole of a nation. English history demonstrates that his theory—the theory, we admit, of many able men, and some great thinkers—is nothing more than a splendid dream.

We need not dwell upon the history of the degradation of the Eastern Church under the iron rule of Russia; nor upon the rise and progress of the Papal tyranny. It will readily be admitted that the Church ought neither to be converted into a mere branch of police, nor be allowed to override the State. More interest attaches to that part of the work which is devoted to “Americanism, or the way of the Sectaries.” According to Lord Robert Montague, religious dissent has always been marked by the same features, and has sprung from the same causes. Under the pretence of a desire to improve the discipline of the Church, and to provide better means of edification for the people, ancient heretics and modern Nonconformists alike concealed political turbulence and sedition, and a distaste for legitimate authority. The process of schism once begun, an indefinite multiplication of sects followed, until we arrive at the ultimate result in the following list of denominations taken from the American census:—

“Democratic Gospel, Ebenezer Socialists, New-lights, Tankers, Superalists, Cosmopolites, Free Enquirers, Children of Peace, Inspired Church, Pathonites, Believers in God, Perfectionists, Spiritualists, Universalists, Puritans, Hopkinsonians, Moderate Calvinists, Strict Calvinists, Destructionists, Restorationists, Deniers of Original Sin (? Pelagians), Pre-existents, Sand-hillers, Soul-sleepers, Come-outers, Lutherans, Churchmen, Congregationalists, Hardshells, Roman Catholics, Rationalists, Methodists, Christians (denying the Trinity), Quakers, Unitarians, Moravians, German Reformed, Dutch Reformed, Jews, Swedenborgians, Socinians, Shakers, Independents, Methodist Episcopalians, North Episcopalians, South Episcopalians, Seventh-day Baptists, Campbellite Baptists, Freewill Baptists, Ironside Baptists, Six-principle Baptists, North Presbyterians (Anti-Slavery), South Presbyterians (Pro-Slavery), Old School Presbyterians, New School Presbyterians, Cumberland Presbyterians, Associate Presbyterians, Reformed Presbyterians, Associate Reformed Presbyterians.”

We cannot enter upon the evidence which our author adduces to show that the voluntary system has failed to provide for the religious instruction of the people of the United States. We agree with him on this point, and think that he is also correct in tracing the infinite multiplication of sects in that country, and many of the moral evils under which it suffers, to the absence of any State Church. For, although we deny that a National Church, such as he would have it, can prevent schism, we have a very firm conviction that the Church of England as it really exists is a powerful agent in checking schism, and reducing it to the least possible dimensions.

Passing on to Scotland, Lord R. Montague dwells at considerable length upon the establishment in that country. Originally a “National Church,” in his sense of the term, it lapsed into the condition of a Church founded on dogma. Instead of being the Church of the people, it became a clergy Church; it assumed supremacy over the State; it rebelled against the interference of the law in securing the rights of patrons to benefices; and, after the Free Church schism, it claims to spiritual independence and domination culminated in the demand that the Church should be allowed to exercise jurisdiction over its members and pastors without the control of the civil courts. It is truly observed that

* The Four Experiments in Church and State, and the Conflicts of Churches. By Lord Robert Montague, M.P. London: Longman, Green, Longman, Roberts, & Green.

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the pretensions put forward on the part of the Free Kirk in the celebrated Cardross case, are very like the introduction of a new canon law into Scotland, under another name, of course. "A divine authority is as distinctly claimed by the Free Kirk as it was by Hildebrand or Leo." Here we can quite agree with Lord R. Montague. It is utterly intolerable that any sect should assume any jurisdiction over its members except that which they voluntarily confer upon it; nor can such a body be kept within these bounds except by the steady hand of the civil courts, maintaining, in so far, the absolute supremacy of the law.

Our space will not allow us to do more than refer to the chapters in which Lord Robert Montague traces the effect of dissent upon the character of dissenters, and shows the tendency both of "Romanism" and "Americanism" to result in the formation of a clerical caste, which has ever been narrow-minded, bigoted, and intolerant. There can, we think, be no doubt he is quite right in this. The clergy of the Church of England are, in a far less degree than either Roman Catholic priests or the ministers of dissenting sects, a body set apart from the laity. Sharing lay sympathies, and subjected to lay influences, their tone is less exclusive, and their minds more liberal. Freely exposed to the influences of society, they share its opinions, and are more disposed to act with it than to act upon it from some external stand-point of their own. It is impossible to over-estimate the advantage we derive from a clergy of this kind. And undoubtedly for this we are indebted to the fact that the Church of England is a State establishment, and that her priesthood are constantly guarded against sacerdotalism by their relation to the national economy. It is almost unnecessary, indeed, to say that we are as fully sensible as Lord R. Montague of the value of the Church of England, and of the blessings which it has conferred upon the country. But we do not think it can serve any good purpose to rest its claims to our reverence on a vague theory which it can never realize;—nay, more, which it can never attempt to realize without relaxing its grasp of that vital Christianity which is its salt and savour. In these days a purely political Church is impossible. And any extension of the boundaries of the Establishment, which might be obtained by abolishing its doctrinal tests—we say nothing on mere matters of ritual—would be certainly followed by a more than corresponding loss of the influence which it can only exercise as a distinctly religious body. While standing aloof from sects and sectaries, it still indirectly influences them by raising and liberalising the general tone of religious life in England; and it is far better that it should be content with this than seek by compromise of principle a delusive comprehension of heterogeneous elements.

SHAKESPEARE AND JONSON.*

FANTASTICAL criticism is one of the penalties which Shakespeare has had to pay for his greatness; and we have seldom seen a more singular specimen than the little volume now before us. It is so strange and wild that once or twice we have doubted whether the author did not intend his criticism for a burlesque; yet, on the whole, we are inclined to believe that it is seriously meant. The main position assumed in these 122 pages is that Shakespeare and Ben Jonson were in a state of life-long antagonism, or rather of fierce personal enmity, and that some of the chief characters in their works were meant for caricatures of one another. Jonson began the war in "Every Man in his Humour" (produced in 1598), in the prologue to which, Shakespeare is supposed to be indirectly alluded to in very uncomplimentary terms, though the play was brought out at his own theatre, and he himself was an actor in it. So far there can be no question that the statement is correct. It is impossible to read the prologue without perceiving that Shakespeare is satirically condemned all through; and it is equally certain that he is glanced at in some of Ben's other plays. This, indeed, is well known to all who know anything of the literature of that period; and if our author had contented himself with repeating the fact, his work might have been superfluous, but it would not have been absurd. As it is, however, he has taken a truth, and exaggerated it to the most grotesque proportions. We are told that in "Every Man out of his Humour" (produced in 1599), the character of Fungoso is meant for Shakespeare; Asper or Macilente for Jonson himself; Carlo Buffone for Marston; Fastidious Brisk for Decker; and Puntarvolo for Lyly. "To this attack," we are informed, "Shakespeare indignantly replied by painting Jonson as Don John in 'Much Ado about Nothing'; Marston and Decker appear as Claudio and Benedick in the opening of the play, and Beatrice's remark, 'Is there no young squarer now, that will make a voyage with him to the devil?' is clearly an allusion to Fungoso's admiration for Fastidious Brisk." But, having thus vented his wrath, Shakespeare, it seems, sought to make amends by introducing Jonson into "As you like it" as Oliver, while he himself figures as the young Orlando. Surly Ben, however, would not be appeased, and again satirized Shakespeare in "Cynthia's Revels" (1600), under the name of Asotus. Shakespeare, with hot haste, in the course of a few months, produced "Timon of Athens," in which Jonson does duty as the cynic Apemantus. Jonson returns to the attack in the following year, and reviles Shakespeare as Ovid in "The Poetaster." Shakespeare immediately raps out "Troilus and Cressida," that he may chastise Jonson as Thersites. Our author's reasoning is

sometimes of a very extraordinary kind. He finds that "Cynthia's Revels" was published in the summer of 1600, and "Timon of Athens" in the autumn of the same year; "The Poetaster" in the summer of 1601, and "Troilus and Cressida" in the succeeding autumn. From these simple facts he makes the following deduction:—

"Many a man has been hanged on circumstantial evidence far less clear and absolute than these dates; consequently Apemantus and Thersites must be the rebound, the repercussive blows to Asotus and Ovid."

We are very sorry for the poor wretches who have been hanged on circumstantial evidence "far less clear and absolute" than such an argument.

Iago also, it is added, was intended for Jonson. In 1605, Shakespeare was ridiculed in "Volpone" as Sir Politick Would-be, while Ben embodies himself in Peregrine, a gentleman traveller. Shakespeare's reply was contained in "King Lear," "in which Jonson is marked out most clearly and unmistakeably as Edmund; and it should not be overlooked, the character is an episode, and not in the original history." And so on our author proceeds, through more developments than we have space to track. Jonson satirises Shakespeare as Sejanus; Shakespeare handles Jonson in the characters of Angelo in "Measure for Measure," Caliban, Sir Andrew Aguecheek and Malvolio (two characters in the same play!), and several others. Nay, we are required to believe that there is yet a *third* character in "Twelfth Night" which reflects Ben, and that in a complimentary sense. He is shadowed forth as Sebastian, while Captain Antonio is Chapman. "By the marriage of Olivia with Sebastian, Shakespeare pays a beautiful tribute to Jonson as a classical scholar." This, it appears, was a return for the compliment paid to our great dramatist in "Every Man in his Humour," where, though he appears as Master Stephen, "a country gull," he "is also represented as young Welbred, and Jonson as his friend, Edward Knowell, who is, as old Knowell (Chapman) says, 'almost grown the idolator of this young Welbred.'"

The contradiction is quite beyond our solving. How the same man can be adumbrated as a rude "country gull" and a person "well bred"—how he can be savagely satirized, and yet be described as almost idolized by the man who defames him—is a mystery which our author does not explain, and which we cannot. Nor do we understand how Shakespeare could have symbolized Jonson as a coarse, silly buffoon like Sir Andrew Aguecheek, and a frivolous coxcomb like Malvolio, in the same play wherein he recognizes his great learning. But, according to the theory expounded in this singular book, the quarrel between the two principals involved all the dramatic writers of the day as "auxiliaries" on one side or the other; so that there is scarcely a character in the plays of Shakespeare, Jonson, and their contemporaries which is not intended as a portrait of friend or enemy, and the whole dramatic literature of the period resolves itself into the successive developments of a private feud. In the course of this feud, each man was made to figure in characters the most diverse. Nothing balks this ingenious author in the elaboration of his grand idea. In passages which would seem to most people to have none but a general meaning, he discovers a world of personal biography; and from the veriest tropes and figures he will elicit dates and specific facts with as much facility as Swift's speculator drew sunshine from cucumbers. That Jonson was an irritable man, inclined to self-assertion and dogmatism, like his namesake of the eighteenth century; that he quarrelled with certain of his contemporaries, and satirized them; that he was sometimes disposed, in wayward moods, to undervalue the wonderful genius from Warwickshire on the score of deficient Latin and Greek; and that the two occasionally engaged one another in sharp passages of arms,—are matters beyond a doubt. But that Ben should for years have indulged a malignant and purposeless hatred of Shakespeare is inconceivable when we remember the noble verses—a very transport of passionate enthusiasm—in which the former eulogized the latter after his death, together with the passage in the "Discoveries," in which he says that he "loved the man and honoured his memory, on this side idolatry, as much as any." It is remarkable that in this very passage Jonson defends himself from a charge of "malevolence" towards his deceased friend, and says that he simply showed his candour in expressing a wish that Shakespeare had been more laborious in correcting his first thoughts and pruning his redundancies.

If we are to believe the little work now under notice, Shakespeare reflects some one of his contemporaries—princes, statesmen, soldiers, or writers—in almost all his characters; sometimes combining two or three real persons in one fictitious man or woman, and mystically hinting at the chief actions of their lives. Other characters, again, are mere embodiments of abstract ideas. In "Romeo and Juliet," Juliet is "the sonnet-muse." Olivia, in "Twelfth Night," "must be the classical muse, the olive, the emblem of Minerva and Athens; whilst Viola is the romantic muse, the virgin violet, the primy spring (*sic*), the Floscula of 'Endymion.'"

Here also is a new light let in on "Timon of Athens" and "Othello":—

"On looking into 'Timon,' we find Alcibiades accompanied by two ladies, who, it is just possible, were intended to represent Marston's comic and tragic muse, or the two parts of Antonio and Mellida. Again, in 'Othello,' who is the lady so wondrous fair, the gentle Desdemona? and who are Emilia and Bianca? When honest Iago

* Shakespeare and Jonson. Dramatic versus Wit Combats. Auxiliary Forces: Beaumont & Fletcher, Marston, Decker, Chapman, and Webster. London: John Russell Smith.

suspects the too great familiarity of the Moor with his wife Emilia, malignant Ben confesses to Shakespeare's intimacy with the Grecian muse. And is not the Moor's jealousy of Cassio the expression of Shakespeare's admiration of the 'Malcontent,' his acknowledgment of Marston's genius, on whom his own love, the romantic muse, has bestowed her sweetest smiles, her warmest kisses, like Cynthia and Endymion?"

In "Cymbeline" we are bidden to recognize a subtle allegory, in which Shakespeare resigns his dramatic sceptre to Beaumont and Fletcher! Imagine the large regard of the High Priest of Nature being lowered to the petty level of an allegorist, intent on nothing more than displaying his egotism, punishing his enemies, complimenting his friends, and flattering the great!

THE VINE AND WINE.*

It was but the other day that we had to review Mr. Shaw's treatise on "Wine, the Vine, and the Cellar." Mr. Denman, who is likewise, we believe, accustomed by his commercial as well as by his literary occupations to deal with this agreeable subject, now takes his turn with a pleasant and instructive volume upon "The Vine and its Fruit, in relation to Wine." We prefer Mr. Denman's book to that of Mr. Shaw. The matter is more compactly arranged, and the style is usually neater and more concise, except in certain passages where it puts on a rhetorical air, which does not become it very well, and which suggests that such passages may have been composed for oral delivery in a lecture. Mr. Denman's chapters, or "sections" as he calls them, are seventeen in number, besides an "Appendix," on the analysis of modern wines, which seems to be of considerable practical importance.

In his first section, after paying his respects to that tradition of the heathen mythology which gives Bacchus the credit of having introduced the culture of the vine all over the earth, Mr. Denman goes on to describe the physiological character and habits of this plant, the different species and varieties, and the different modes of culture, noticing more particularly the soils, situations, climates, and seasons in which it thrives most, and yields the best qualities of wine. At the same time, he has picked up a few curious data for the history of vine-growing in ages subsequent to that of the beneficent expedition of the son of Jupiter and Semele. About the middle of the twelfth century, as we learn from the chronicles of William of Malmesbury, the vale of Gloucester was famous for its extensive vineyards, producing a wine "but little inferior to that of France in sweetness." In the counties, also, of Worcester, Hereford, and Somerset—now famous for the best cider and perry—there were vineyards which yielded a drinkable wine. At a period yet more remote, there were vineyards in London, from which the Roman colonists of this city derived a fermented beverage, not ungrateful even to their Italian palates. According to Geoffrey of Monmouth, in the latter years of the Saxon rule it was observed that "without the city walls the old Roman vineyards still put forth their green leaves and crude clusters in the plains of East Smithfield, in the fields of St. Giles's, and on the site where now stands Hatton Garden." This is a pleasant recollection for us Londoners, and we thank Mr. Denman for putting it into his book. He proceeds, in his next two sections, to treat, with much antiquarian and epicurean gusto, of the wine-drinking customs of classic Greece and Rome. But we know no more about the Falernian, of which we read in Horace, than that it was a strong, heady, fiery wine, rough when new, but good when mellowed by keeping.

The fourth section, which is devoted to modern wines, is also mainly historical, and gives some account of the changes in English commercial legislation respecting this article, and of their effects upon the habits of the people. The author, as might well be expected, is an earnest advocate of the moderate use of wine, as more conducive to health and cheerfulness, and much less likely to be abused through intemperance, than any other fermented drink. We are entirely of his opinion, and believe that total abstinence from all stimulants of the kind is by no means advisable, at least for persons of a certain age, who have to work for long hours in the exhausting atmosphere of our crowded cities. There can be no doubt of the soothing and salutary effects of the diluted alcohol in sound natural wines; and we rejoice in Mr. Gladstone's commercial policy of 1860, which admits for popular consumption the generous and wholesome vintages of France, instead of ardent spirits, "hot and rebellious liquors," fatal to the stomach and the brain. Mr. Denman, too, exults, with good reason, in what he magniloquently styles "the emancipation of hilarious Bacchus from his fiscal chains." One effect of the new tariff has already appeared in the importation of many sorts of wine hitherto unknown or unavailable in this country. It is, therefore, most opportune to survey the whole field of viniculture, and to give an account of the various produce of those districts from which our wines are supplied.

We have yet to emancipate ourselves from the effects of the Methuen Treaty of 1703, concluded between England and Portugal with the express design, on the part of our Government, of encouraging the importation into this country of Portuguese vintages, and thus destroying the taste hitherto existing among Englishmen for the light wines of France. We were then at war with Louis XIV., and it was thought that a fiscal arrangement

* The Vine and its Fruit, in relation to the Production of Wine. By James L. Denman. Longmans.

which should cripple the French wine trade in this country would be no bad seconder of the arms of Marlborough. The treaty provided that Portuguese wines, in return for a preference granted to our woollens, should be admitted into England at a customs duty one-third less than that assessed on the vintages of any other nation. The results of this famous compact are thus stated by Mr. Denman:—

"Since this diplomatic arrangement, the political relations of England and Portugal have rendered us extremely familiar with the wines of that country, and obtained for them a degree of favour and importance which, under other circumstances, they might not have so easily acquired. Prior to the revolution of 1688 the wines of French origin constituted three-fifths of the entire consumption of this country, the imports extending at times to 40,000 pipes per annum. In 1675 there came to England 14,990 pipes of French wines to 40 of those of Portugal; and in the year following no less than 19,290 French to 166 Portuguese. Soon afterwards, the growths of France were altogether prohibited, and in seven years—from 1679 to 1685—only eight pipes were imported, whilst 13,760 pipes of Portuguese came in. From 1686 to 1695 the interdict on France was removed, when the average annual imports again expanded to 26,892 pipes,—Portugal wines not reaching to 900 pipes. But the national taste in wine soon began to be influenced by price, and fluctuated as the growth available was dear or cheap. From this remarkable era these large French consignments began rapidly to decline; in 1701 they fell to 4,000 pipes, and at the end of the first seven years from the Methuen compact, the average annual supply was 330 pipes only. As few persons in those days kept much store of wine in private cellars, the chief consumption being in taverns, where it was served from the cask, the whole quantity in the country at any one time was not very considerable, and the stock soon became completely exhausted. As the growths of the Bordelais, however, still continued much in favour and request, an appropriate substitute for them became a pressing necessity, when the deficiency was supplied by the red wine of Portugal, and the commencement of the Oporto trade dates from about this period. National taste and habits were not overcome without a hearty struggle, and the novel imports were received at first with undisguised scorn and reluctance."

In his speeches on the Commercial Treaty of 1860, Mr. Gladstone referred to the old English preference for the light, sparkling, and airy vintages of our neighbours across the Channel, and expressed a hope that we should return to those earlier tastes. It is highly probable that much of the gouty and apoplectic tendency of the last hundred and fifty years has been owing to our indulgence in the heavily-branded ports which were almost created by the Methuen Treaty. The port that is made for the English market is, in its natural form, a thin, tart, astringent, and generally pale liquid. After fermentation, therefore, it is sweetened and fortified by the introduction of fresh must and brandy, while the colour is intensified by the juice of elderberries. Port, indeed, as one of the characters in "High Life below Stairs" remarks, is a species of dram, and does not seem to find favour with Mr. Denman. Of the Spanish wines he speaks much more highly. The soil and climate of Spain he regards as peculiarly adapted for the proper cultivation of the vine, and he gives a distinguished place to the various species of sherry, especially amontillado, the flavour of which is "so sensitive that it will bear no foreign admixture of any description, and the least addition of brandy would entirely spoil it." It is mainly with the white wines of Spain that foreigners are acquainted; but Mr. Denman assures us that "the red wines of the interior, properly managed, would prove equal, if not superior, to most others, both in quality and agreeable character." The wines of Italy suffer from "the ignorance, obstinacy, and slovenly indolence of the natives;" but matters are now improving under the liberal, enlightened, and progressive rule of Victor Emmanuel, and we may hope that in time, with so splendid a climate and so fruitful a soil, producing grapes in the most lavish profusion and of the very highest quality, Italy will be as celebrated for noble vintages as she was in the time of Augustus.

A very ample and curious account of Hungarian wines is given in the volume before us. Until recently we have known absolutely nothing of these products, with the exception of certain legends with regard to "Imperial Tokay." But Mr. Denman is of opinion that the country of the Magyars is calculated to supply us with admirable wines. He says:—

"These wines are pure, durable, abundant, and cheap; rich in flavour, aroma, and delicacy. Stronger than Rhenish, French, or even than Spanish or Portuguese unbranded samples, they are particularly well adapted for our climate, and are further endowed with other commendable properties. 'Many of the Hungarian wines,' remarks Mr. Graham Dunlop, in his official Government report, 'are agreeable and wholesome when drunk on the spot, but they are in general made with a view merely to home or neighbouring markets, and with little or no regard to foreign consumption, or to their fitness for undergoing transport. Consequently, although the people thoroughly understand the culture and management of the grape until the vintage, their whole system of wine-making and manipulation is careless, wasteful, and defective, and requires improvement. I hardly think that even the best Hungarian (unbranded) wine will ever, among rich people who drink expensive wines, successfully compete in England with first quality French clarets; but if the English middle and lower classes do not take to the light acid French growths, they would certainly become large consumers of the dry, strong-bodied, clean Hungarian wines, more especially the white, and these could be supplied to them cheaper than sherries from Cadiz. The stout red wine resembling Burgundy would suit the English general market.' . . .

"The soil is successful culture and beauty of exuberant found a certain enclosure square mile shelters the the pyramids dominates the and its existence was once a locality is but ever small; peerless importance covers upward gallons of and 50,000 a medium of Poland, and scarcely a fetch the patient owner to them."

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* Bref Récit de M. J. B. Saguenay, et autres, avec les cédés d'une brev Tross. Post 8vo.

"The soil and climate of Hungary are admirably suited to a successful cultivation of the grape. Nothing can exceed the grandeur and beauty of its mountains, crowned with sheltering woods and vines of exuberant vegetation. Wherever is seen a lofty hill, there will be found a carefully-tended plantation. The superb Badacsony mountains encircle the majestic lake of Balaton, covering a surface of 125 square miles; the arid and elevated region of Mènes, or Világos, shelters the rich vales of the Bânat,—the holy Canaan of Hungary; the pyramidal mount of Tokaj, a chaotic and perdurable landmark, dominates the borders of a vast plain. It is like Vesuvius in form, and its existing yet silent crater points irresistibly to the fact that it was once a flame-consuming phenomenon. The tillage of such a locality is both troublesome and expensive, the produce obtainable ever small; but then in the latent fire of this volcanic spot lives the peerless imperial Tokay. The territory exceeds five miles in length, and covers upwards of 60,000 acres, yielding on an average about 1,250,000 gallons of good ordinary wine, 375,000 gallons of fair or superior, and 50,000 more of superfine wine; the two latter sorts only forming a medium of external commerce, and finding their way into Germany, Poland, and Russia. In France and England there are, perhaps, scarcely a hundred bottles; the reason being that the former people fetch the wine, which the French and English omit to do, whilst the patient owners act negatively, and are content to wait till buyers come to them."

Wine-drinking in England is undoubtedly on the eve of an important revolution. Our old taste for light wines will be redeveloped with the growing freedom of trade with all countries, and the vast vine-producing regions of Central and Southern Europe will send us wholesome and exhilarating beverages with which we are as yet unacquainted. Mr. Denman has even a good word for the much abused products of South Africa, which, we are told, have greatly improved of late; and he touches also on the wines of Persia, Arabia, and the Holy Land, together with those of India, China, Australia, and South America. We should certainly be glad to see the consumption of wine increased among our population, and that of spirits lessened. Before the year 1580, when pure alcohol was first introduced into England, we were not d for our sobriety; since then, we have attained the disgraceful distinction of being the most drunken people in the world. Mr. Denman's interesting and inclusive volume will do us a real service if it lead in the direction of less fiery potatoes.

CANADA MORE THAN THREE CENTURIES AGO.*

It is very far from uninteresting, either in a historical or an ethnological point of view, to be able to compare the condition of a country now peopled by a highly civilized race with the same country when it was occupied only by a few tribes of uncultivated savages. We have, if any, but very imperfect means of making this interesting comparison with the kingdoms of the Old World, for their ages of savage life go back generally to a remote period, which has left us only slight and obscure memorials. We know that the ground now occupied by rich and populous London was once a wilderness, overrun by naked Britons; but we hardly know anything further. It is not so, however, with the New World, where the most populous and civilized countries of our days have been mere wilds, inhabited by savages, at so comparatively late a date that the first European visitors have left us in many cases most minute descriptions of the original wild populations in their primitive state. The province of Canada, now a flourishing European colony, has been known to Europeans above three hundred years. This country was first discovered by a French navigator, named Jacques Cartier. In the great movement which followed the discovery of America, the French appear to have turned their eyes especially in the direction of the northern coasts of that continent, thinking that they might find in that region the open-sea route to India and China, which the Spaniards had missed, perhaps, by shaping their course too much to the south. In the April of 1534, under a commission from François I., Cartier sailed with two ships under his command, and directed his course to Newfoundland, where he arrived in May. Having coasted the eastern side of Newfoundland to the North, he passed the Straits of Belle Isle, followed the coast of Labrador as far as the Bay of Shecatica, where, finding the gulf become wider, he crossed it to the western coast of Newfoundland, which he approached at Point Rich, and followed southward till, towards the end of June, he reached Cape Anguille. Then, sailing westward, he passed the Magdalen Islands, and reached the American coast at the Bay of Miramichi; when, having explored this to some little extent, he returned home to France. Next year, Jacques Cartier sailed on a second and more successful expedition, of which, on his return, a detailed account was written, probably by himself, but certainly by some one who accompanied the expedition. This was printed at Paris in 1545; but the little book had become so rare that only one copy was known to exist, and, as no writer on the subject had ever seen it, we may be said, down to the present time, to have known hardly anything of Cartier's important second voyage, in which Canada was really discovered. It is, therefore, with great satisfaction that we receive from the publishing house of Troas (in Paris) the elegant and quaint reprint in facsimile of the

unique copy of the narrative of Cartier's second voyage; and it is none the less welcome for coming under the protection of a name so distinguished among geographers as that of M. d'Avezac, who has added to it, by way of introduction, a very excellent, though too brief, sketch of the early history of geographical discovery in this part of North America.

On this second voyage, Jacques Cartier had three ships under his command. They sailed from St. Malo on the 19th of May, and, after encountering much contrary weather, arrived at a bay at the mouth of the River St. Jean, on the 10th of August, which being St. Laurence's Day, he called it the Bay of St. Laurence. He thus continued giving to the newly discovered localities the names of the saints on whose days they were first seen, which accounts for the number of such names still found along the line of Cartier's navigation. On the 15th of August, these early navigators landed on the Isle of Anticosti, which, it being the feast of the Assumption, they gave the name of Ile de l'Assomption. Cartier had the year before carried with him to France two of the "savages," in order to qualify them to be interpreters, and these, now serving as guides, pointed out to him the mouth of the great River St. Laurence, which he entered at the beginning of September. They now soon approached inhabited country, and the two "savages" were useful in effecting a friendly understanding with the natives. On the 6th of September, they came to an island which was so covered with hazel-trees that Cartier named it the Ile aux Coudres, a name which it still preserves. A little further, their two guides pointed out the spot where they entered the country of Canada, and they were now visited by great numbers of the natives, who brought them plenty of provisions, many of which were new to them. The day after they entered his country, the great chieftain of Canada, whose name was Donnacona, but who ruled his people under the title of the Agouhanna, came with an escort of twelve barques to visit Jacques Cartier in his ship, and an interesting account of the interview is given. The French now continued their course up the river, and came to another island, where, on the day of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (September 14), they anchored at the mouth of a river to which Cartier gave the name of the day, St. Croix (it is now called St. Charles). When they landed and explored the island, they were astonished at the abundance of the vines and the fineness of the grapes which grew upon it, and Cartier gave it the name of the Isle of Bacchus, a name which he afterwards changed for that of the Isle of Orleans, which it yet bears. A little above this island, Donnacona, the Agouhanna, or chief of the Canadians, had his residence at a place called Stadacone, on the banks of the St. Lawrence, the very spot now occupied by the city of Quebec. The relations between the visitors and the natives became every day more intimate and apparently more friendly, and the Canadian chieftain appeared to be especially pleased with the foreigners.

Beyond this place the river became much narrower, and was not considered to be navigable for great ships; yet Jacques Cartier had learnt from his two native interpreters and others that a considerable distance up he would find another large tribe and the residence of their chieftain at a place called Hochelaga, and the bold and adventurous French captain determined to visit it. But the Canadian Indians appear to have had a strong objection to the further progress of the French up the river, and, to prevent it, they contrived what the writer of this curious narrative calls *une finesse*, with the assistance of the two native interpreters, one of whom, now they had reached their home, turned traitor. This *finesse* is related as follows:—

"On the morrow, the 18th of the said month (September), with the design always of preventing our going to Hochelaga, they imagined a great *finesse*, which was thus: they dressed three men in the forms of three devils, who had horns as long as one's arm, and were clothed in black and white dogs' skins. And their faces were painted as black as coal; and they caused them to be placed in one of their canoes unknown to us; and their party came, as usual, near to our ships, but they kept back in the wood, without appearing for about two hours, waiting the time and tide which would allow of the arrival of the said barque, at which time they all left the wood and presented themselves before the said ships without approaching them, as their custom had been; and the said Taignoagny (the traitorous guide) began to salute our captain, who asked him if he wanted the boat, who replied, not for the present, but that he would soon come on board the said ships. And at this moment arrived the canoe containing the three men, who looked like devils with great horns on their heads, and the one in the middle made a marvellous speech on his arrival. They passed alongside our ships with their said canoe without looking towards us at all, but they went direct to land with their said canoe, and immediately the said chief, Donnacona, took the said canoe and the said three men, who had dropped into the bottom of it like dead people, and carried it all together into the wood, which was a stone-throw distant, and not a single person remained opposite our said ships, but all had withdrawn into the said wood, and they, being in the said wood, began on predication and speechifying, which we heard from our ships, and which lasted about half an hour. After which the said Taignoagny and Domagaya (the two native interpreters) made their appearance, walking towards us, with their hands joined and their hats under their elbows, pretending great astonishment, and the said Taignoagny began by saying and uttering three times, 'Jesus, Jesus, Jesus,' raising his eyes to the sky, and then Domagaya began to say, 'Jesus Maria, Jacques Cartier,' looking up to the sky like the other. The captain, seeing their countenances and ceremonies, began to ask what was the matter, and if anything new had happened. They replied that there was pitiable news, saying, 'No, is it good?' And the said captain asked them again what it was, and they replied that their god,

* Bref Récit et Succincte Narration de la Navigation faite en MDXXXV. et MDXXXVI. par le Capitaine Jacques Cartier aux Iles de Canada, Hochelaga, Saguenay, et autres. Réimpression figurée de l'édition originale rarissime de MDXLV., avec les Variantes des Manuscrits de la Bibliothèque Impériale. Précedée d'une brève et succinte Introduction historique par M. d'Avezac. Paris: Troas. Post 8vo.

named Cudragny, had spoken at Hochelaga, and that the three men aforesaid had come from him to announce to them the news, that there was so much frost and snow that they were all dying. At which words we began to laugh, and told them that their god, Cudragny, was but a fool and did not know what he was talking about, and bid them tell it to his messengers, and say that Jesus would protect them from the cold if they would believe in Him. Then the said Taignoagny and his companion asked the said captain if he had spoken to Jesus, and he replied that his priests had spoken about it, and that it would be fine weather. For which information they thanked the said captain, and withdrew into the wood to tell the news to the others, who immediately issued from the said wood, feigning to rejoice at the said words thus uttered by the said captain. And to show their joy, soon as they came opposite the ships they began with one voice in common to raise three cries and howlings, which is their sign of joy, and began to dance and sing, as was their custom. But in the end the said Taignoagny and Domagaya told our said captain that the said Lord Donnacona would not allow any of them to go to Hochelaga with him."

The result was that on the morrow, the 19th of September, Jacques Cartier sailed up the river, taking with him the smallest of his three ships and the boats of the others, with all the "gentlemen" of the expedition and fifty of the sailors, leaving the rest of the sailors in charge of the two ships which remained in the river of St. Croix. After various adventures they arrived at Lake St. Peter, where they were obliged to leave their ships and continue their voyage in boats; and thus, on the 19th of October, they reached the town of Hochelaga, where they were received in a friendly manner by the inhabitants and their chieftain. This town was seated at the foot of a mountain, to which Jacques Cartier gave the name of Mont-Royal, which has been preserved in that of the present capital of Upper Canada, Montreal, which occupies the site of the Canadian town. This native town is thus described:—

"We named the said mountain Mont-Royal. The said town is quite circular, and enclosed with timber in three ranges, in form of a pyramid, having the middle range in form of a perpendicular line; then a range of timber laid lengthwise, well joined and tied together in their manner; and it is about two spears' length in height. There is only one entrance gate to this town, which is closed with bars. Over which, and in several places in the said enclosure, are a sort of galleries, and ladders to mount into them, which are furnished with pieces of rock and pebble stones, for the protection and defence of the same. There are within this town about fifty houses, each about fifty paces or more long, and ten or twelve paces wide, and all made of timber, covered with great pieces of bark and slices of the said timber as large as tables, well bound together artificially according to their manner. And within are many places and chambers; but in the middle of these houses there is a great place on the ground where they make their fire, and there they live in common, after which they retire into their said chambers, the men with their wives and children."

A considerable portion of this curious and interesting narrative is occupied with a description of the character, manners, and customs of the native Canadians, and with a vocabulary of their language; but for this we have not room to do more than recommend to our readers the book itself. We will only give one further extract. Speaking of the productions of the land, the writer of this narrative tells us:—

"They have also a herb of which they make great stores during summer for the winter, which they esteem much, and the men only use it in the manner following:—They dry it in the sun, and carry it hung to their neck in a small animal's skin instead of bag, with a pipe of stone or wood; and whenever they please they reduce the said herb to powder, and put it in one end of the said pipe, and then put a lighted coal upon it, and suck at the other end, till they fill their body with smoke, so that it comes out by their mouth and nostrils, as by the flue of a chimney; and they say that this keeps them sound and warm, and they never go anywhere without these things. We have tried the same smoke, and after having put it in our mouth, it seemed as if we had taken pepper, it was so hot."

This is, we believe, the earliest notice we have of the use of tobacco. We will only add that the travellers returned to their former station at St. Croix, where they remained some time, and were attacked with a fatal disease which carried off so many that they were obliged to abandon one of the ships for want of sailors to man it; that they at length learnt from the natives a remedy, consisting of a decoction of the leaves and bark of a tree peculiar to the country; that they left the river of St. Croix on the 6th of May, 1536; and that they arrived at St. Malo on their return on the 16th of July. A little more than 300 years afterwards, on the 26th of September, 1843, considerable interest was excited at Quebec by the discovery of the remains of the ship abandoned by Jacques Cartier, embedded in the mud of the St. Lawrence.

We will only add that we shall be ever ready to welcome from the publishing house of Tross such interesting volumes as this we are reviewing, especially when they come recommended to us by any name so honoured in science as that of M. d'Avezac.

THE SONG OF SONGS, RENDERED INTO VERSE.*

Of all the books contained in the Sacred Volume, there are few which have called forth more controversies as to their nature,

* The Song of Songs. Rendered into Verse, from the received English Translation and other versions. By Joseph Hambleton. London: Trübner & Co.

origin, and purport, than one of the very smallest in the canon—the Song of Songs. It was allegorized by the Jewish, and is still by Christian, interpreters. By the former it was held to typify the love of God to the Jewish people; by the latter, the love of Christ to the Church, whose gifts and perfections her Lord so tenderly and graciously commemorates. Our own ecclesiastical authorities have pronounced it to be one of those books of which there was never any doubt in the Church. That the original composition, though in divers instances not strictly translated in any version, is, taken as an entirety, susceptible of a refined mystical meaning of the kind alluded to, is obvious; and, notwithstanding a lower and more ordinary sense may be attached to certain parts and expressions—as it is, indeed, by some interpreters to the whole—yet it is not necessary to confine the entire interpretation to an inferior sphere. On the contrary, it is a safe and noble rule of criticism to construe every utterance of oracular poetry or prophecy in the highest sense of which it is capable. German and other commentators of various schools have busied themselves concerning this little book; some earnestly contending for, and others against, the inspiration claimed for it as part of "God's Word written." In Dr. Davidson's able and learned Introduction to the Study of the Books of the Old Testament will be found a lucid abstract of the chief arguments on this topic by the principal Biblical commentators by whom it has been discussed, Hebrew, English, and Continental.

This is by no means the first time that the Song of Solomon has made its appearance in our literature in another garb than that prescribed for it by the venerable writers of the established version of the Holy Scriptures. Some twelve or fourteen years ago, there appeared, from the pen of Mr. F. Barham, of Bath, a translation of the Song of Songs, which, while presenting a different version of the original, but still adhering, as closely as was consistent with the translator's sense of the necessity of a revised rendering, to the authorized interpretation, adopted a somewhat similar view of the text to that expressed in Mr. Hambleton's paraphrase, viz., as constituting a kind of early pastoral drama. Following Bossuet, Lowth, and other interpreters, ancient and modern, Mr. Hambleton considers it not only, as they do, an epithalamium, but a nuptial drama, written with a view to be performed at marriage festivities, and, under the name of "The Voice of the Bridegroom and the Voice of the Bride," referred to by the prophet Jeremiah, vii., xi. 34, and in other places:—

"This poem," says the author, in his preface, "is evidently in dialogue constructed for recital by a company personating characters and performing actions to which the words sung or said would afford appropriate interpretation. If we accept the title 'dramatic' in this sense, we are not, therefore, to expect the performance to have been accompanied by the adjuncts devised by a more artistic people, and raised by modern taste and science to the perfection of illusion. Many parts of this drama would be quite unintelligible unless we explain them by allowing that all who took part in the performance remained present witnessing the scenes enacted in their supposed absence. A company of friends in social privacy, reading or reciting a dramatic composition, each person leaving exits and entrances to be supplied by the imagination, performers becoming audience, and resuming their parts as required, would, among our modern amusements, exhibit a nearer approach to the conditions for which this poem was originally constructed than the elaborate devices required by a more advanced state of art."

Mr. Hambleton's notion, in fact, of the Song of Songs appears to be that it was very much of the nature of a drawing-room drama of the present day. We leave our readers to form their own opinion of the likelihood of such a supposition. The Jews themselves appear to have no traditions of the kind. The author, in his preface, we are bound to say, labours valiantly to prove his hypothesis, and supports it with much ingenuity. He assigns, as the probable date of its composition, the period of about fifty years after the disruption of the monarchy; and to M. Renan, to whom the merit of the above discovery is due, the work is dedicated.

EUROPEAN HISTORY.*

MR. ADAMS has produced what is, in many respects, a very useful and entertaining book, well adapted for schools, or for those whose desire for information on historical subjects, however great, has hitherto been balked by the want of light and comparatively short works, in a succinct and readable form, like the one now before us. The present volume will, in some measure, supply a void which has long existed, by presenting a large accumulation of historical facts and biographical memoranda, in a highly condensed narrative, occupying a middle place between the bulky volumes of more ambitious writers and the dry abridgments of schools. Mr. Adams commences with the battle of Tours, A.D. 732, which put an end to the Saracenic invasion of France, and concludes with the battle of Waterloo. Many of the greatest and most important political and social events which have occurred in the different states of Europe during the twelve centuries intervening between those two memorable epochs are here narrated, including, amongst others, the coronation of Charlemagne, with some account of the reign of the great Emperor of the West,

* Scenes from the Drama of European History. By W. H. Davenport Adams, Author of "Anecdotal Memoirs of English Princes," "The Sea-Kings of Europe," "Memorable Battles in English History," &c. London: Virtue Brothers.

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as well as of the man himself; the battle of Hastings, the Crusades, the siege of Orleans, and the chivalrous exploits of Joan of Arc; the discovery of America by Columbus, with Lamartine's estimate of the character of that enterprising navigator; the doctrines and actions of three great Reformers—Wickliffe, Huss, and Luther; the Spanish Armada, and the career of Charles XII. of Sweden. These are represented by the author as so many scenes in what he calls "the grand and somewhat tragic drama" of European history, and are accordingly classed under that head, to the number of fifteen, each separate event being connected with the foregoing by a series of chronological links. The work exhibits much varied information, labour, and research on the part of the writer, as all the best authorities, English, French, Spanish, and German, are here mentioned as having been consulted for the facts. The matter, however, is not, in our opinion, nearly so well arranged as it might be. Some confusion results from the introduction of postscripts to the scenes (very often longer than the scenes themselves), notes, and other appendages. It would have been much better if Mr. Adams had observed one uniform plan throughout the book, instead of bewildering his readers with a variety of different forms and unnecessary addenda.

We have also to notice the omission in the present work of one very prominent and important political scene in the history or "Drama" of modern Europe. We here look in vain for any account of William Tell and the foundation of the Swiss republic—an event of no little consequence as affecting the future of Europe; for, although Switzerland at the present day holds a very humble rank among the surrounding states, she may yet be regarded as of importance, as affecting the balance of power on the Continent. We do not even find the hero of Swiss liberty incidentally alluded to in any of the chronological links. Mr. Adams's literary style is not always of the best. It is sometimes too heavy; at others, frivolous, if not maudlin. More especially in writing of Joan of Arc, he descends to all the artifices of a penny novelist. This is a great mistake. All we require in a work of this kind is a lively and spirited relation of events, as distinguished from a hard, dry, and prosy narrative.

IN THE TROPICS.*

THE adventures of a denizen of the city suddenly transported to a tropical island, the pen and the ledger abandoned for the hatchet and the plough, and house and dormitory exchanged for a hovel and a hammock, can hardly fail to be interesting both to those "who sit at home at ease," and those who, after the manner of the author of this book, are either inclined to "rough it," or are actually engaged in that attractive operation. For the benefit of these latter especially, the settler in Hayti relates his experience. Brought up originally on a farm in the heart of New York State, but condemned for many years to a city life, without, however, the slightest prospect of attaining independence, the author and his brother resolved upon trying their fortune as emigrants to the island of Hayti, the former going first as pioneer and single-handed experimentalist to his brother's more extensive family. As soon as he arrived in San Domingo, which he did after a fortnight's voyage, he set to work making inquiries. On the third day after his landing, he made his way, at the end of a long walk, to a part of the island where he had been informed there was some chance of a settler being suited; and, having seen the property, on the following morning actually entered into possession of a plot of land about forty acres in extent, which he had purchased for 150 dollars, payable at the end of the year. This was, in effect, a twelve-months' credit. How he sped upon this little estate; how he sowed and reaped, and grafted and planted; how he hewed timber, and "axed his way" through the woods; how he fenced fields, laid out roads, dug and delved, pitched his tent, and built his cottage; how he served everybody, and how everybody served him; how he made friends all about him by the simple process of doing everybody some good,—showing the niggers how a white man could work, and at the same time showing them, by the introduction of machinery, how he was willing to save their toil when such a course was more profitable both to the employer and the labourer; and how much mutual benefit was realized to both classes by constant and prudent industry, is all told in these pages with thorough earnestness, simplicity, and truthfulness. There is neither exaggeration of the writer's own means, merits, or achievements, nor extenuation of his difficulties or failures. He plainly tells you which of his projects answered, and why; and which did not, and wherefore. He very thoughtfully kept a diary of his doings; and his work is divided into what may be called monthly chapters, entitled March, July, September, &c., indicating at once the progress of the year and the results of his speculation. The composition of the work is far from being a dull or monotonous narrative of agricultural proceedings. Various characters, evidently sketches from life, are introduced. The Dons Julio and Delfino, the useful and faithful Juanico, and his pitch-black "lily of a wife," Anita, contribute not a little to the enlivenment of the settler's story. The following passage, taken from the concluding pages, presents us with a graceful and agreeable *tableau*, and forms, as the author thankfully acknowledges, an appropriate termination to the record of his labours:—

"Early on Monday morning we selected our Christmas tree, a thrifty guava, encircled by other fruit trees of larger growth and denser shade. It is a little beyond the spring, just where the sweep of coffee, wild plum, and pomegranate trees mingle their shrubby hedge with the loftier growth of the grand old fruit grove. There is plenty of soft grass under foot, and cool shade overhead. There is pure water close at hand, and two limes near by loaded with golden fruit, to make our cool and wholesome beverage. Delfino says Nature arranged the site expressly for the Christmas festivals of a man who is learning how to live in the primitive content in which Columbus found the first lords of this lovely island. Our preparations were truly Arcadian. The trees around supplied the fruits, our viands were to the last item home-grown and home made, and our beverages—mead, coffee, lemonade, native wines, and chocolate at the close of the day (after the presents were distributed)—were produced, without a single exception, on my own place, or brought from Delfino's sugar-plantation. Yet our forty guests, men, women, and children, found no lack of wholesome and palatable variety at our rustic banquet beside the Christmas tree. Never have I enjoyed a day of purer delight than this, which I have passed on my own honestly-earned homestead, entertaining with hospitable care those who, in direct labour or neighbourly kindness, have served me so well during the twelve months now concluded. They have done much to aid me in my new life, and I fervently pray that another year may again gather us all together under the richly laden boughs of our next Dominican Christmas tree."

MIRIAM'S SORROW.*

IN all works of fiction there should be a due proportion of sentiment and of incident. When one of these vastly preponderates over the other, the work is in danger of falling into what is called sickly sentimentalism or merely melodramatic effects. To say that "Miriam's Sorrow" is a novel constructed on the singular principle of an utter absence of incident might not be strictly true; but when it is seen that there are only three recorded or alluded to in these pages, one of which occurs before the narrative commences, another is to be probably inferred from the concluding line of the last volume, and the only one beside consists in the answer to an advertisement, it will be admitted that the interest of the story is not likely to be of a "devouring" character. At the same time, the story is not without its interest; and the mystery of the sorrow upon which it is based is skilfully developed and sustained. The narrative is one entirely of internal mental struggles, and the record of more or less successful suppression of the powerful emotions of love and jealousy. To such a degree is this carried on, and so well acquainted does Mrs. Mackenzie-Daniel appear with the effects of agitated spirits upon the nervous system, that of the four principal characters introduced, three of whom, it must be confessed, are of the feebler sex, each of them successively is at death's door, and always two or three of them are simultaneously under the doctor's hands. Medical men, therefore, figure in this story—which might have been written in the interest of the profession—to no inconsiderable extent, though in minor capacities; comprising, indeed, three English and as many foreign doctors.

As regards the story itself, it is necessary to premise that a long time before it commences a Miss Mountjoy was engaged to be married to a Mr. Milton; and the former, having invited a lady friend to visit, counsel, comfort, and assist her in the important preparations requisite for the approaching bridal, discovers to her consternation, the morning previously, that bridegroom and bridesmaid have eloped together, leaving Miss Mountjoy very shamefully in the lurch, with no other consolation than the letter—*de rigueur*—on the dressing-table. Although taking this conduct very much to heart, she does not fail in due time to marry another, Dr. Howard, and, nursing her desire of revenge, prevails upon her husband, after recovering from a long and serious illness, to take her abroad, where she may meet again the wife of the man who had so abominably jilted her. This revenge she so cruelly and thoroughly carries out as to impress her husband with the belief of her mind being affected with an actual, appreciable, though slight unsoundness. Mr. Milton, to escape further persecution, takes his unhappy wife and the daughter to whom she has given birth to India, where they all remain for some time—till, in fact, the mother dies from the effects of the climate, and the child is sent to be educated in a convent in Germany. Dr. Howard, also, who was considerably his wife's senior, dies, leaving a grown-up son, Stephen, in possession of a handsome property, into whose charge he commends his stepmother, with peculiar injunctions respecting attention to her supposed state of mind. As Mrs. Howard, who certainly develops some eccentricities of character, although nowise alarming in themselves, requires a companion—and has had indeed several, who, instead of attending to her, preferred committing flirtation with her stepson, and had consequently been dismissed—she advertises for another; and to this announcement of her wants Miss Emily Verney replies by personal application, and is accepted. The young lady is duly warned of the failing and the fate of her predecessors, and makes her resolve in accordance with her high principles most prudently and most scrupulously, arming herself externally with all that coldness and indifference of which we hear so much among the young, the happy, and the inexperienced. How it comes about, in spite of all this, that Emily, in whom Mrs. Howard and Stephen and herself placed so much confidence, and Miriam, daughter of the unfortunate Mrs. Milton, maugre all

* In the Tropics. By a Settler in San Domingo. With an Introductory Notice by R. B. Kimball. London: Sampson Low, Son, & Marston. New York: Carleton.

* Miriam's Sorrow. By Mrs. Mackenzie-Daniel, Author of "After Long Years," "Marrying for Money," &c. Two vols. London: T. C. Newby.

warnings and obstacles, should each give her heart to Stephen; how it is that, while one is married to him and is jealous of her friend, the other is justified to all appearance in loving and in expressing her love to him, while at the same time his conduct is unexceptionable even at the moment of the confession alluded to; how it is that he marries at all, after the doubt whom he loves the best or the least; and the ultimate release of one of these heart-stricken ladies from her voluntary but blameless passion,—all this is brought before the reader gradually and with considerable ingenuity, until the evolution of the story is complete.

THE ART OF BUILDING.*

THOSE who seek in this volume for practical information in the "art of building" will certainly be disappointed. The author has poured out his thoughts very much at random upon almost every conceivable subject except that on which he professed to have something to say. He does not afford his readers any means of judging what his qualifications may be for instructing them in the mysteries of building; nor, after reading the book, is it easy to say what the author wishes to enforce, nor his object in writing it, unless it were to deliver himself of a number of short lectures on various sanitary questions, the leading points of which have already been given to the public in several forms, both by the press and sanitary reformers. Occasionally, however, especially just before the close of the book, our author does approach somewhat nearer to his work. Still, he invariably flies off in some new direction, until at last he discloses at great length a plan of curing smoky chimneys, which, if it were new, would entitle him to the thanks of the community; but, inasmuch as the proposed plan of cure is almost as old as the nuisance itself, we regret that we cannot award him the credit of this discovery, not only because it is no novelty, but also because a smoky chimney, like a scolding wife, has been known sometimes to resist even the "unfailing cure" of which the author boasts. Whilst, however, we are bound to express this opinion of the book as an "exposition of the art of building," we cannot deny that it contains some useful hints for those who wish to improve the sanitary condition of their own dwellings or those of their poorer neighbours.

PAMPHLETS.

THE Parliamentary season has brought with it the usual influx of pamphlets on the political and other questions of the day. The case of the *Alexandra* and the rams is treated by "Vigilans,"† who, in ten chapters, sets forth the history, origin, and object of the American Foreign Enlistment Act, the precedents under that Act, and their comparison with the case of the *Alexandra*, the history, origin, and object of the English Act, the recent trial (including the hearing before the full court), and the judgment. These statements of fact are accompanied by original remarks and arguments, in which the author contends that there are no precedents justifying the prosecution by Government of the Messrs. Laird, and strongly condemns Earl Russell for having, at the instigation of the Emancipation Society and of the English sympathizers with the North, abandoned the dignified and legal position which he at first assumed with relation to the remonstrances of the United States. The recent letters of "Historicus" to the *Times* are searchingly analyzed, with a view to convicting the writer of self-contradiction; and the sympathies of the English nation are loudly demanded on behalf of the Liverpool shipbuilders and of the Confederates. The little work is timely, and of a certain value, as containing in a compact form the history of this celebrated case.

The condition of Ireland is handled by the Hon. Robert O'Brien in a conversation between an Englishman and an Irishman.‡ In a rapid and discursive manner, the author touches on the position of the Established Church, of the Dissenters, and of the Roman Catholics, and glances at the relative position of landlord and tenant and the recent increase in emigration. The opinion expressed by the Irish interlocutor on the property of the English Church in the sister island will be appreciated by the readers of the *LONDON REVIEW* :—

"It is no doubt an anomaly that the clergy of a section should have the property intended for the benefit of the whole population. But, without doubt, that property is not adequate for the ecclesiastical purposes of the whole country, and has been so reduced by various legislative measures that it is not now more than sufficient for the Established Church. The transfer of the property from the Roman Church to the Anglican Church in Ireland, was as formally and legally done as any transfer of property in any part of the world. Since that took place, every acre of Ireland has been made the subject of a re-grant from the Crown, so that every landed proprietor now holds his land subject to a charge on it for the benefit of the Established Church. The oaths of successive Sovereigns, the several acts of the Irish and English Parliaments, the solemn covenant at the time of the Union, the stipulation in the Act of Emancipation, the

frequent formal resolutions of the Roman Catholic bishops, clergy, and laity, declaring they had no intention to disturb the Established Church, should be a sufficient protection for its property; and therefore, that property could not be given up to the Roman Catholics without doing such an act of injustice as would sap the foundations of the whole property of Ireland."

Mr. O'Brien states various objections to suggested reforms of the law of landlord and tenant, and seems to think that emigration will go on at its present rate as long as Irish labourers, who are half-starved while they remain at home, can find luxury and comparative wealth in the States of America.

Whoever is interested in the sugar question should read a translation, which has just been put forth, of a little treatise by M. Dureau.* The author of the original is in favour of a single uniform duty on all sugars, whether coarse or refined, loaf or crushed, and of delivering the trade from the elaborate and perplexing fetters which are now imposed on it. The law as at present existing is full of contradictions—peculiarly vexatious to France as a sugar-producing country. During the last twenty years the question has been the despair of all French politicians; and M. Dureau now proposes to solve the difficulty by an application of "the principles dictated by the Emperor in his letter of January 6th, 1860."

Two pamphlets on the recent quarrel between Mr. Cobden and the *Times* have been issued by a Manchester firm.† The first reprints the correspondence with Mr. Delane, with a few notes, and with an appendix containing some letters between Mr. Cobden and the management of the *Daily Telegraph*, consequent on the refusal of that journal to print the original letter to the *Times*. In his communications to the chief of the penny press, and in the introduction to the pamphlet, the member for Rochdale reiterates those opinions on anonymous journalism, the alleged venality of the *Times*, and the treatment of himself and Mr. Bright in that and other papers, which have now become famous, and which have been already sufficiently examined in these columns. The second pamphlet to which we have alluded professes to unfold "the traditional policy of the *Times*." In the year 1791, the *Times* asserted that a banquet had been held at Birmingham, at which the following toast was drunk :—"Destruction to the present Government, and the King's head upon a charger!" There appears to be no doubt that this was altogether incorrect, if not wilfully false. The compiler of the pamphlet reprints letters addressed to the *Morning Chronicle* and the *Birmingham and Stafford Chronicle*, entirely denying the truth of the assertion, and affirming that, although liberal principles were expressed at the banquet, and success was drunk to the new order of things in France, and to the United States, then in their infancy, the tone with respect to this country was essentially and emphatically loyal and constitutional. The pamphlet also contains a very interesting letter from Dr. Priestley to the people of Birmingham, who had burned his house, library, and apparatus, on account of his known Radical principles in politics and heterodoxy in religion. The riots are supposed by the pamphleteer to have been stimulated by the inflammatory loyalism of the *Times*; and certainly that journal, in the quotation here made, speaks in an approving tone of "the havoc among the Dissenters," by which the mob gave active expression to their views. It is a curious picture of a bygone state of things.

Another "very pretty controversy" is contained in a correspondence between the Rev. Mr. Kingsley and Father Newman.‡ In the January number of *Macmillan's Magazine* Mr. Kingsley wrote :—"Truth, for its own sake, had never been a virtue with the Roman clergy. Father Newman informs us that it need not, and on the whole ought not to be; that cunning is the weapon which Heaven has given to the saints wherewith to withstand the brute male force of the wicked world which marries and is given in marriage. Whether his notion be doctrinally correct or not, it is at least historically so." Dr. Newman is horrified at such an interpretation being put on any of his writings, and elicits from Mr. Kingsley a statement that he based his remark on one of the Father's sermons on "Subjects of the Day," published in 1844, when he was a Protestant clergyman. Subsequently, Mr. Kingsley writes a retraction which Dr. Newman considers evasive, and capable of an interpretation by ordinary readers unfavourable to himself. Mr. Kingsley amends the retraction, and it appears in the following form in the February number of *Macmillan* :—

"To the Editor of *Macmillan's Magazine*.

"SIR,—In your last number I made certain allegations against the teaching of Dr. John Henry Newman, which I thought were justified by a sermon of his, entitled 'Wisdom and Innocence' (Sermon 20 of 'Sermons bearing on Subjects of the Day'). Dr. Newman has by letter expressed, in the strongest terms, his denial of the meaning which I have put upon his words. It only remains, therefore, for me to express my hearty regret at having so seriously mistaken him.

"Yours faithfully,

(Signed)

"CHARLES KINGSLEY."

Dr. Newman, however, is still not satisfied. He alleges that he never said what he was taxed with saying, and that consequently

* The Sugar Question as it affects the Consumer. By M. B. Dureau. Edited by Joseph Travers & Sons. Longman & Co.

† Correspondence between Mr. Cobden, M.P., and Mr. Delane, Editor of the *Times*; with a Supplementary Correspondence between Mr. Cobden and the Editor of the *Daily Telegraph*. Manchester: Ireland & Co.

The Traditional Policy of the *Times*. Same Publishers.

‡ Mr. Kingsley and Dr. Newman: a Correspondence on the Question whether Dr. Newman teaches that Truth is no Virtue. Longman & Co.

* Progress of the Art of Building; a Sure Remedy for Smoky Chimneys. Wm. P. Nimmo, Edinburgh; Simpkin, Marshall, & Co., and Houlston & Wright, London.

† The Foreign Enlistment Acts of England and America.—The *Alexandra* and the Rams. By Vigilans. Saunders, Otley, & Co.

‡ A Short Conversation upon Irish Subjects. By the Hon. Robert O'Brien. London: Chapman & Hall. Limerick and Cork: Guy & Co.

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§ Explanation
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the concession that he never meant it is not enough. He is not content that the retractation should rest merely upon his word to the contrary; and there the matter rests for the present.

Mr. John Campbell Smith reprints a paper on the marriage laws of the three kingdoms, read at the Social Science Association during its session at Edinburgh last autumn, together with a postscript, containing some letters which he addressed at the same period to the *Times*, the replies of that journal, and some further remarks of the writer.* The tone is highly favourable to the Scotch law, and strongly opposed to the laws on this subject of England and Ireland. Mr. Smith is of opinion that the number of illegitimate births is as great in England as in Scotland, and would so appear if the English law with regard to the registration of births were as strict as the Scotch law. The main position assumed by Mr. Smith may be taken as defined in the assertion that no law is entitled "to step in between a man and his God, and to declare the wife he has taken to be his in the sight of Heaven to be no wife." Any one who is desirous of hearing what there is to be said on both sides of this important question, may do so by reading the little book now put forth by Mr. Smith.

The subject of Clerical Subscription is discussed in two pamphlets issued by the Messrs. Rivington.† Mr. Espin, in his sermon preached on Sexagesima Sunday before the University of Oxford, contends that, while certain "dogmatic limitations" are absolutely necessary to every church, as much liberty of private judgment should be allowed to clergymen as is consistent with the maintenance of Christian doctrine. He thinks the Thirty-nine Articles admirably devised for meeting both these necessities, but is of opinion that the Act of Uniformity should be revised and amended, and that the declaration of "assent and consent to all and everything contained in and prescribed by the Book of Common Prayer" should be abolished, as a vestige of purely secular tyranny, wholly devoid of "ecclesiastical sanction, authority, or precedent." Archdeacon Hale, in his letter to Mr. Hoare, takes precisely the contrary view. He is in favour of preserving all the existing forms and tests, remarking that the fact of their excluding men who differ from the received principles and practice of the Church is the very reason why they should be retained, as their only object was to preserve those principles and that practice from innovation and decay.

Mr. Thomas S. L. Vogan, M.A., has discussed the alleged grievances in connection with the Burial Service in a thick pamphlet,‡ the main conclusions of which are thus summed up at the end:—

"It has been shown, that the grievances alleged are neither so real, nor so great, as is commonly supposed. With regard to the burial of unbaptized persons, it has been shown that the grievance, of being exposed to ill-will and popular misrepresentation, arises only from ignorance or disregard of the law; and that is to be remedied by very simple means in the power of the clergy themselves: by a plain exhibition of the law to the ignorant, and by consistent and uniform obedience to it.

"With regard to the burial of those whose evil life would bring upon them the sentence of excommunication, if ecclesiastical discipline were enforced, we have seen that the bishops have ample power to protect their clergy in the proper discharge of their duty; and that even when a bishop may happen to expose one of his clergy to a suit on an alleged complaint, there are strong reasons to hope that the courts would grant all the protection which might be needed.

"And with regard to those who 'have laid violent hands upon themselves,' we have seen that the Rubric means, and can only mean, what it says: that the clergy have nothing to do with the sanity or insanity of suicides; that the clergy have no connection whatever with coroners or their courts; that they have neither need nor right to have any knowledge of their verdicts; that a coroner has no authority to put his verdict before the minister; and that the minister is not to be guided by it in his duty, by whomsoever, or by what means soever, he may be made aware of it.

"Having reached these conclusions, the alleged grievances seem to have vanished, and with them the supposed necessity either of a revision of the Burial Service, or of an alteration of the law relating to its use."

The Schleswig-Holstein quarrel is subjected to a historical, political, and moral examination in a treatise of a hundred and forty-three pages (including appendix) which now lies before us.§ The chief facts in this most perplexing and entangled dispute are here brought within a readable compass; and, but for being put forth in paper covers after the pamphlet form, the work might assume the dignity of a book. A tone of warm sympathy for Denmark pervades the whole production, the writer being of opinion that the German attack on the Danes is quite unjustifiable, that Schleswig is far more Scandinavian than Teutonic, and that the possession of that province and of the line of the Eyder is absolutely necessary to the safety and independence of the peninsula.

* The Marriage Laws of England, Scotland, and Ireland. Being a Paper read at the Meeting of the Social Science Association at Edinburgh on October 13, 1863. By John Campbell Smith, M.A., Advocate. With Postscript. Edinburgh: W. P. Nimmo. London: Simpkin, Marshall, & Co.

† Clerical Subscription and the Act of Uniformity. A Sermon preached before the University of Oxford on Sexagesima Sunday, January 31, 1864. By the Rev. T. E. Espin, B.D., &c. With Notes. Oxford and London: Rivingtons.

‡ Clerical Subscription Considered: in a Letter to Henry Hoare, Esq., from the Archdeacon of London. Same Publishers.

§ The Use of the Burial Service as required by Law. By Thomas S. L. Vogan, M.A., Vicar of Walberton-with-Yapton, Prebendary of Chichester, and Rural Dean, Bell & Daldy.

§ Explanation of the Danish Question, with Translations of the Constitution of November 18th, 1863, and other State Papers. Bolton.

Nevertheless, he concedes that Holstein and Lauenburg, as containing an unquestionably German population, should be governed quite separately by the Danish monarch, who, with respect to them, should submit to the directions of the Federal Diet at Frankfort. Those who wish to master the details of the Danish question at a reasonable expense of time and trouble, cannot do better than peruse this "Explanation."

OLD ANGLO-SAXON POEMS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "LONDON REVIEW."

SIR,—In the able review of Mr. Morley's "English Writers," which appears in your last issue, "The Traveller's Song" is said to be our oldest Anglo-Saxon poem.

I think the song of the elder Caedmon, "On the Origin of Things," is older; it was inserted by King Alfred in his translation of Bede. It has been edited by Junius and, together with a metrical paraphrase of parts of the Holy Scriptures, also ascribed to Caedmon, by Thorpe (Lond. 1832).

Though all your readers are not philologists, perhaps there are few who would not like to see the venerable words side by side with one of our best literal translations:—

"Nu we sceolan herigeaen	Now we should praise
Heafon rices weard;	Heaven-kingdom's warder;
Metodes mihte,	Creator mighty,
And his mod gethane	And his mind thought,
Weorc wuldor faeder!	Glorious Father of his works!
Swa he wuldres gehwaes	As he, of glory every,
Ece drihten!	Eternal Lord!
Ord onstealde;	The beginning established;
He aereast gescop	So He first shaped
Earthan bearnum,	The earth for children (of men),
Heafon to rofe.	And the heav'ns for its canopy (roof).
Helig scyppend	Holy Shaper (Creator)!
Tha midden gearð,	The mid region,
Mon-cynnes weard,	Mankind's warder (guardian),
Ece drihten,	The eternal Lord,
Æfter teode	Afterwards made
Firum foldan;	The ground for men,
Frea Almightig.	Ruler Almighty!"

The above is supposed to be 1,200 years old.

I am, &c.,

Skeffington, Feb. 15, 1864.

E. H. J.

THE SHAKESPEARE TERCENTENARY.

TOUCHING the approaching Shakespeare Celebration, we hear that Manchester has begun in practical earnest to contribute its share in the tercentenary honours. Without betraying an excess of local self-esteem, the cotton metropolis may congratulate itself on having enlisted support for a movement in which we have lately witnessed how easy it is for inconsiderate zeal to err in its own despite. There can hardly be a question of the wisdom of its election to aid the Stratford memorial—the appropriate shrine of Shakespearian homage from the nation at large—and yet to commemorate the approaching solemnity of recognition by a definite and lasting token in Manchester itself. And by the foundation of Shakespeare scholarships at Owen's College (if that be decided upon), we need not be ashamed to perpetuate, even in the lustre of so great a name, some recollection of men who seek not to obtrude themselves, but to distinguish their institution through thus linking among its students the learning of the passing years to the genius of all time.

The adjourned meeting of the National Shakespeare Committee, held at the Society of Arts on Monday, under the presidency of the Duke of Manchester, was more satisfactory than some recent gatherings, inasmuch as it resulted in the submitting to the public of certain definite propositions. The Right Hon. William Cowper, speaking on behalf of the Site and Monumental Committee, said that they had agreed to suggest the placing of a statue under cover in some conspicuous part of the metropolis (the Green-park, if that be possible), the building to be of the Elizabethan style of architecture, roofed at the top, but open at the sides, with arcades affording an opportunity of illustrating the works of the poet by painting, sculpture, or otherwise. The Dramatic and Entertainment Committee, the report of which was read by Mr. Stirling Coyne, states that the appeal which has been made to the various London theatres to co-operate in the festival has been met, in the great majority of cases, by promises of cordial support. The musical profession, moreover, is coming forward in the right spirit. A grand concert of Shakespearian music is to be given on the great day, under the direction of M. Jules Benedict. Mr. G. W. Martin has organized, in conjunction with the National Choral Society, a choir of one thousand voices, who will perform Handel's "Messiah" on some evening prior to the 23rd of April, on behalf of the fund; and on the tercentenary day itself the same choir will give a grand celebration concert of Shakespearian music at Exeter Hall. The miscellaneous entertainments will, it is hoped, be supported by Mr. and Mrs. German Reed, Mr. John Parry, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Paul, Mr. Arthur Sketchley, Mr. Woodin, Mr. J. E. Carpenter, and others. Negotiations are pending with Mr. Gye, and with the directors of the Crystal Palace, for dramatic and musical performances on a grand scale; readings from Shakespeare will take place; and Mr. Webster has promised to call the managers together, with a view to organizing a performance of the poet's works at all the London theatres. The report from the committee for forming committees-in-aid set forth that the representatives of certain trade-societies had agreed to form a committee to co-operate in carrying out a plan to celebrate the approaching birth-day, and to contribute

to the subscription for the monument. Mr. Webster proposed that any surplus funds should be applied to the relief of decayed actors and their children; and it was understood that the committee would take the matter into consideration. All the reports were unanimously received, and the following noblemen and gentlemen have been appointed to bring the project for a monument fairly before the public:—The Duke of Manchester, the Right Honourable William Cowper, Sir Joseph Paxton, Mr. Tite, Mr. Beresford-Hope, Mr. Maclise, R.A., and Professor Donaldson. This is well; but it is clear that we can have no statue until long after the 23rd of April.

The riband manufacturers of Coventry have just produced an appropriate decoration to be worn on the days of the approaching Shakespeare Festival. The badge consists of three leaves. On one is the residence of the poet; on another, the church of Stratford-on-Avon; and on the third, a portrait of Shakespeare (from the Chandos picture)—the three devices being attached by a button, on which are engraved the Shakespeare arms and crest.

LITERARY GOSSIP.

ON Saturday last, the transfer of Messrs. Hookham's library, 15, Old Bond-street, to the "English and Foreign Library Company," was effected. Those who knew the library in times gone by will be sorry to see the name of the old firm erased, notwithstanding that the signatures of so many eminent gentlemen—Sir Henry Rawlinson amongst them—figure in the list of directors in the new proprietary. Far back in the last century Hookham's was established, and the changes of literary taste which it has witnessed would make a wonderful volume of social history, if all the old librarians could be summoned back to give their book-experiences. At one time its shelves exhibited less than one hundred English romances and books of travel, whilst some thousands of French novels, *à-la-mode*, from the presses of Paris, Geneva, Berlin, Amsterdam, and not unfrequently London, filled the library in every part. These were mostly of a small size, usually known in the "trade" as duodecimo (not much larger than one-half of the ordinary modern novel), and very convenient for the pockets of the high-heeled young ladies who came there in chairs. About the year 1790, two black footmen used to stand at the door to bow to the customers as they came and went, hold the horses of riders from the park, or perform any service that might be required. Forms, too, were arranged on either side of the door to seat the powdered livery servants who waited for their masters and mistresses within. In the early part of the present century, the poet Shelley used to frequent this library, being on very friendly terms with Mr. Hookham, who is still living. Four or five years ago, a large portion of the old library was turned into the auction-room, and collectors of what is, by a curious perversion of speech, termed *facotia*, found many quaint little volumes of the greatest rarity. There were books by Diderot, Mirabeau, Crebillon, and others, of such a flagrant character, that one can scarcely believe the guardians of young ladies and gentlemen could permit their charges to peruse them. Some of these volumes, detailing the adventures of "Milord" and "Miladé," now realize more guineas than they formerly did shillings. Such is one of the tastes of book-collecting! The new company, however, will have no volumes of this class to lend to subscribers. The prospectus promises to "provide English and Foreign books for all readers, without distinction of sect or party." One promise it makes which we shall be glad to see fulfilled—"the prompt circulation of new books immediately after their publication." This has been so neglected by the Pall-mall Library Company that several complaining letters have recently appeared in the morning papers. The Bond-street Company is in 10,000 shares, of £10 each, giving a capital of £100,000, and it commences business with a stock "of upwards of a hundred years' accumulation, comprising a larger collection of important works than any other library in the kingdom, except that of the British Museum." It is just a year ago since Ebers's Library, on the opposite side of Bond-street, was brought to a close; and now a still older house follows it into oblivion.

The First Part of Johnson's Dictionary, by R. G. Latham, will be published by Messrs. Longman & Co. on the 29th inst. The work will be continued monthly, and completed in 36 Parts, forming 2 vols. quarto.

A volume of the broad burlesque character is in preparation at the chromo-lithographic establishment of Day & Sons. The title very fairly conveys the nature of its contents:—"The Gorilla and the Dove; or, a Voyage without Discovery towards the Source of the Nile." It will consist of large illustrations, many of them of a very humorous character.

If a stranger to London had sauntered into the Court of Queen's Bench last week, and a wag had told him that he was honouring with his company the Philological Society at one of their grand discussions about the correct meaning of words, the stranger might very well have believed the wag's statement. A curious case was being decided between the Duke of Marlborough and a Mr. Osborn, his Grace's tenant-farmer, and the entire evidence turned upon the meaning of the old English word *team*. The agreement was that the "tenant perform each year for the Duke, at the rate of one day's *team* work with two horses, for every £50 rent," &c. The dispute arose as to whether a cart was implied as well as horses, the Duke affirming that the former was as much a part of the agreement as the horses, and the tenant contending the other way. Quotations were made from old ballads, Wordsworth's "Waggoner," Johnson's and Walker's "Dictionaries," and Gray's "Elegy," to show that the word meant a cart drawn by horses. The description given by Cæsar of the mode of fighting from the chariot adopted by the ancient Britons, who used to come out of their chariots, and "*percurrere per temonem*," was also cited. On the other hand, the farmer quoted from Bosworth's "Anglo-Saxon Dictionary," and Richardson's "Dictionary," to show that the primitive meaning of the word was anything following in a line, as

offspring, progeny, a yoke of working cattle. Somner, he informed the Court, applied it to a litter of pigs, and in some parts of England it referred to a line of ducks. Quotations were made from Spenser, Shakespeare, Roscommon, and Dryden, to show that horses only were meant, no reference being made to a waggon or cart. The Duke lost his suit, as two judges out of three decided that the word "*team*," as used in the contract, referred only to horses which the farmer was to bring for his landlord's use, without any reference to a vehicle of any kind. The case has been referred to in the newspapers as "a curious philological discussion, with interesting poetical illustrations."

Mr. John Forster's long-promised "Biography of Sir John Eliot" will be published in a few days, in two volumes.

The story left unfinished by Mr. Thackeray, and which we stated in our last issue would appear in the next number of the *Cornhill Magazine* with the title of "Denis Duval," is, we believe, autobiographical in form, and will extend to four numbers. Those who have had an opportunity of perusing the MS. bear out Mr. Dickens's testimony as to the character of the work. A favoured friend, who was permitted to read it before it was handed over to the printers, makes this remark:—"It is singularly perfect for a fragment, as the conclusion can readily be guessed—indeed, wonder has been expressed as to how the author would have been able to extend his tale over the requisite number of months. The style, too, is admirable, far exceeding 'Lovel the Widower,' or 'Philip,' and is much more soft, gentle, and kindly than was usual." The little book will be illustrated with woodcuts drawn by Mr. Walker, the first after a design by the author.

The American journals just now are full of kindly notices of the late Mr. Thackeray. Amongst several little reminiscences of the great humorist's last visit to that country, we notice the following:—When Thackeray concluded his course of lectures on "The Four Georges," in the city of Brooklyn, some years ago, he remarked to a friend, who congratulated him upon his striking picture of George IV., "You will soon forget all about it if I don't give you a memento;" and, taking up a small bit of paper, he rapidly sketched a perfect likeness of that monarch, in an attitude of easy negligence, reclining upon a sofa. The puffy cheeks and general air of stupidity which characterize the portraits of George IV. were faithfully reproduced by Mr. Thackeray in this off-hand sketch, which is now in the possession of Mr. Theodore Tilton, of the *Independent*.

Mr. Thackeray's house is to be sold. An advertisement in the papers has caused many hundreds of people to visit the residence of the great humorist. It is said that a sale will be held of the books, furniture, and curiosities early in the coming month.

The present number of the *Fine Arts Quarterly Review* completes the first volume. A preface from the pen of the editor, Mr. B. B. Woodward, Librarian in Ordinary to the Queen, explains the circumstances which suggested the undertaking of a quarterly review devoted especially to the Fine Arts. England is the richest country in all the world in collections of paintings and drawings, and yet there was but one periodical solely dedicated to art, while France, Germany, and Belgium could each boast the possession of several such means of intercommunication for the students and lovers of the Fine Arts. The article possessing most general interest is one on the great battle-painter, Horace Vernet. The writer has "attempted to make the man known as well as the artist," and has succeeded happily. Many anecdotes pleasant to read are recorded of this generous man. Driving in the streets of Paris one day, "the painter's cabriolet struck against a truck, and the shaft was broken. A painter, who was at work upon a pork-butchers signboard near, ran immediately to Horace's rescue, and mended the shaft with a cord. In order to thank him, Vernet mounted the ladder, and finished the ham and sausages his obliging brother-artist had begun."

Mr. Henry A. Tilley's new work, entitled "Eastern Europe and Western Asia; Political and Social Sketches on Russia, Greece, and Syria, in 1861-2-3," will be published shortly by Messrs. Longman & Co., in two vols., with illustrations.

Mr. Tennyson's new poem is so far completed that its publication by Messrs. Moxon & Co. may be looked for at an early day. The nature of this new effort of the poet-laureate is not known; but rumour says that it relates to an early period of our own history, to a time not very long after the days when Arthur is said to have been king, and the order of the Knights of the Round Table to have been a flourishing institution.

As yellow became the distinctive colour of Mr. Thackeray's serial publications, so green has long been associated with Mr. Dickens's books. The first number of the new novel by the author of "Pickwick" will appear on the 1st of May in the familiar old green cover. In one respect, however, it will be different in its appearance. The illustrations, instead of being steel etchings by H. K. Browne (Phil), will be wood-engravings by Mr. Marcus Stone.

Mr. Fairholt, the admirable artist, whose interesting pictures of past life and manners, in connection with Mr. Wright's antiquarian and historical works, are well known, is now in Egypt, travelling with Lord Londesborough for the benefit of his health.

The "Schleswig-Holstein question," now that it has brought the disputants to blows, has become of very considerable interest to Englishmen, although for a long time, when only small threats were held out, the subject was never alluded to here, except as a colloquialism for a difficult, uninviting matter of inquiry. A recent publication, issued at the modest price of one shilling, throws very considerable light upon the subject. It consists of a "Genealogical Chart," showing the right of the present king to the throne of Denmark, and the claim of the Duke of Augustenburg to the Duchy of Schleswig-Holstein. The author is a Mr. F. J. Jeffrey, an active member of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, residing at Liverpool. Longman is the publisher.

Book-collectors in Paris are much more "curious" in their purchases than the bibliomaniacs of this country; although the recent

high prices London was making their place in Paris. "La Constitution" in human skin belonged to a nobleman. is added a new binding. named Galle having asserted the existence procured for to justify the

The novel is understood

Robert Browning new volume literature open Browning, can last production

We hear the doubtless be Quarterly Review Shakespeare, on this subject and others.

Collectors of publications is about to be similar number of which of a varied and Charles I.; a letter from Lord Smith, Lord Lablache, Marquis sketch of Lord the late Mr. T.

Under the the fac-similes of the Emperor are issued.

We have to read of Spain, Ventura his chief field was earned for him of Madrid.

The French Saturday, Mr. E. of Archbishop was also elected

The second edition Ketcher has just appears, is out of

"Emma Lyon which our printer last week's issue

The American be more active Republic. A new tion of Essays upon by the Federal been published Notes," by Henry this work has long country, Bentham performance of ve application of el administration it

Of new books is collected the follow

Messrs. A. & C. Schools of Sculpture Royal Academy James Miller, Pro 1 vol.; a work on cine and Midwifery

Messrs. SMITH, Hekim Bashi, or in the Turkish St "Siege of Kars" entitled "Military influences affecting ment, the use of st and the duties of a

Mr. BENTLEY's li fourth volume of the Dr. Hook, Dean of Reformation; "M Magnusson, with novel, in 2 vols.; a Messrs. MACMILLAN entitled "The Tus Susan Horner; also 1863," by the Rev. "The Maori King, New Zealand," by J

Messrs. MACMILLAN and Co. will publish this week a volume entitled "The Tuscan Poet, Giuseppe Giusti, and his Times," by Susan Horner; also, "Seven Months' residence in Russian Poland in 1863," by the Rev. F. Anderson. They have likewise in the press "The Maori King, or the Story of our Quarrel with the Natives of New Zealand," by J. R. Gorst.

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